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SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA REPORT

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CRITICAL SITUATION SEEN IN BENGUELA TEXTILE PLANT

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 13 Feb 82 p 9

[Excerpts] Benguela--The huge Africa Textil industrial complex, based in Benguela, is experiencing serious problems due to bottlenecks in its weaving division--the heart of the factory--due to the lack of glueing products; this threatens the routine operation of the production unit and the fulfillment of the plans, as ANGOP [ANGOLAN PRESS AGENCY] learned from the management of that textile center.

Due to the lack of this product, which is imported, the unit was partly paralyzed last December, a situation which was corrected partly thanks to the "good understanding" of foreign suppliers who, in spite of the trouble the country's exchange system is experiencing, sent some products before the opening of credits through the National Bank of Angola, the same source added.

"The news we have at this moment," we were told, "is that the products involved are already on the way to the country. Nevertheless, we are still worried about the assumption that the transport vessel might arrive in Luanda and have to wait for unloading for a long time because, if that additional material is not delivered to us by the end of February, it will be practically inevitable to close the factory down," a high official at the Benguela textile enterprise said.

The belated reception of additional raw materials causes an interruption in the organization of the factory sector which is reflected in the behavior of the workers, especially an increase in labor discipline violations and absenteeism. It must also be reported that some units in the country's ready-made clothing industry depend on the operation of this production unit.

In connection with this, the Africa Textil complex is expecting soon to carry out a major and rather ambitious project which will involve the construction of a residential development for its workers. The enterprise already has authorization from the Ministry of Construction and at this time is waiting for the ruling from the Ministry of Finance and a guarantee of construction material supply through the enterprises in that branch.

5058

CSO: 4742/219

NEW BOEING 737 PURCHASED BY TAAG

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 14 Feb 82 p 13

[Text] The first of the two Boeing 737 aircraft procured by TAAG [Air Transportation of Angola], the Angolan air transport company, is scheduled to arrive in the Angolan capital next May, according to what Germano Gomes, general manager of that company, told ANGOP [ANGOLAN PRESS AGENCY] on Thursday.

The second aircraft will arrive in Luanda this coming December. Both of these aircraft were purchased by TAAG from Boeing.

According to statements by Germano Gomes, both aircraft will replace two other aircraft which were leased from GPA (an Irish enterprise, with the lease due to run out in March and May).

The TAAG general manager arrived in Luanda on Thursday, coming from Lisbon where he had been in contact with GPA representatives concerning the removal of the lease. "We suggested a reduction in the cost of the lease but the other party (GPA) wanted to increase it," he said.

According to that same source, Angola did not accept the GPA proposal and that company's representatives had to return to Ireland in order later on to send a response to the Angolan proposal. If that response is not received by next week, TAAG will have to seek another solution to the problem.

The company has also raised some questions which, according to Germano Gomes, have to do with the maintenance of its aircraft, cleaning, disinfection, and treatment of fuel tanks and engine inspection. Everything was cleared up through our maintenance manager and the various tests and treatment procedures revealed nothing negative. There is no reason to assume that the fuel tank had corroded. It was also demonstrated that the enterprise was in a position to demand conditions which the factory does not advise. Angola then agreed to station a technician in that enterprise in Luanda, he added.

With the purchase of another two aircraft, the TAAG will increase the number of Boeing 737 aircraft to five since, out of the five currently in service with the Angolan airline company, only three will be the property of the Angolan government. The other two are rented from GPA. TAAG only wants to remove the contract on the aircraft whose lease is to expire in March since the other one, which will run out in May, will no longer be necessary due to the arrival of the first of the two aircraft already purchased.

Concerning long-range aircraft, Germano Gomes revealed that the "purchase of a Boeing 747 will depend on many factors (traffic, runs, etc.)." The Luanda--Lisbon run is the only one that could benefit from an aircraft of that type. On that line, there are so-called "slack periods" when there are no more than 40 passengers per day and the aircraft return almost empty.

In the meantime the assumption has been advanced regarding the purchase of more aircraft of the Fokker-Friendship type which are considered quite economical and better suited for Angola's domestic airlines, primarily going to areas where there are no runways that could handle the Boeing 737 aircraft and where the traffic volume does not justify the use of that type of aircraft. Nevertheless, all of that depends on statistics and more precise data, the TAAG general manager revealed further.

5058

CSO: 4742/219

BRIEFS

INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST DELEGATION--A delegation from the Socialist International has been in Luanda since last night. The delegation, consisting of Jean Bernard Curial, member, French Socialist Party, and Joseph Ki Zerbo, member, Socialist Progressive Party of Upper Volta, are on an "exploratory mission" aimed at finding out from the Frontline Countries the role which the Socialist International can play in solving the problem of Namibia and of South African aggression. In statements made on arrival, Jean Bernard Curial said that the delegation which he directs will confer with Angolan authorities on the development of the situation in southern Africa and the difficulties which the RPA [People's Republic of Angola] is facing as a result of South African aggression. The delegation was received at the 4 de Fevereiro International Airport by Ambrosio Lukoki and Ilidio Machado, both from the secretariat of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 11 Feb 82 p 1] 5058

STATUS OF GRANTEES DEFINED--In a decree published in the official gazette, the cabinet approved the regulation on Angolan scholarship students abroad whose applications may be submitted by the MPLA-Labor Party, JMPLA [Youth Movement of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola]-Party Youth, central government agencies, mass and social organizations, government, mixed, or private enterprises, or by the individual concerned. The decree notes on the other hand that "a scholarship student abroad" is any citizen who goes to a foreign country to acquire scientific, technical, or practical knowledge for a period of time in excess of 6 months and at the expense of the Angolan state or agencies existing in it or at the expense of the host country or the organization existing there. The document also indicates that, regarding courses of a political and labor union nature, "the prerogative for submitting applications rests exclusively with the MPLA-Labor Party, JMPLA-Party Youth, and UNTA (National Union of Workers of Angola)." [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 13 Feb 82 p 2] 5058

CONSTRUCTION OFFICIAL TO CUBA--Augusto Mateus Lopes Rosa, general manager of the TECNOGIRON mixed civilian construction enterprise, yesterday left the country's capital heading for Havana, capital of the Republic of Cuba, to discuss study projects concerning the adoption of the Giron Schools plan with Cuban authorities connected with this branch. According to what he told ANGOP [ANGOLAN PRESS AGENCY], moments before leaving Luanda, Augusto Mateus Lopes Rosa will stay in the Cuban capital about 15 days. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 13 Feb 82 p 2] 5058

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

BRIEFS

BUDGET SHOWS DEFICIT--The 1982 budget for the Central African Republic calls for Fr CFA 29,995,000,000 in government receipts and Fr CFA 38,203,000,000 in expenditures, for a budget deficit of 8,408,000,000. No new taxes were imposed, in order not to push taxes any higher than the already high level of last year. On the other hand, the state's tax collection agencies (customs, taxes, treasury, bureau of mines) were urged to take "merciless action" against fraud, tax evasion and speculation. In order to strengthen "national independence" and reduce dependence on foreign financing, a special "contribution to national recovery" has been instituted. It will be assessed at a variable rate depending on the means of the individual citizen, but will average 10 percent of earned income. It will be deducted from the wages of government officials and employees, as well as employees in public and quasi-public enterprises, local governments and public offices. This year the "big effort" to hold down spending will focus on salaries and wages. In fact, personnel costs currently account for more than 93 percent of budget spending. The Military Committee for National Recovery (CMRN) has decided to implement a series of strong measures to "reform" public finances. These involve reducing the number of employees in the public sector by retiring employees who have reached the age limit and forceful "disciplinary" steps to remove "corrupt" and "lazy" public employees. [Text] [Niamey LE SAHEL in French 29 Jan 82 p 4] 9516

PENNE DISCUSSES FRENCH AID--The future of French aid was virtually the only subject discussed during a visit to Bangui by Mr Guy Penne, President Mitterrand's advisor on African and Malagasy affairs. Since the military took power in Bangui in September 1981, Central African authorities have had the impression that the French Government "had some reservations" about the new regime. Mr Penne himself noted that French aid had almost tripled since the fall of Emperor Bokassa. In 1981 Paris provided the Central African Republic far more aid than did any other donor--FR CFA 17 billion (FR 340 million) a sum which is equal to about 63 percent of the Central African budget. [Text] [Paris LE MONDE in French 11 Feb 82 p 3] 9516

CSO: 4719/567

SECRET DOCUMENT OUTLINES PLAN TO ERADICATE RELIGION

Mogadishu HEEGAN in English 12 Feb 82 p 4

[Text]

We reproduce herebelow an article which appeared on the «Voice of The Arab World» of February 1982 issue No. 107 on the attack on both Moslems and Christians by the colonial regime in Addis Ababa.
— Editor.

AN ATTACK on both Moslems and Christians as well as any religious denomination as a «dangerous cancer» has been made by the Ethiopian government in a document which has been handed to the writer.

The secret document outlining a plan «to uproot and destroy completely the anti-revolutionary situation that is prevalent in religious practices «has been drawn up by the Ministry of Information and National Guidance in Addis Ababa and has been «leaked» by a reliable government sou-

rice to a British visitor.

The document states:-
«We would be committing a revolutionary mistake if we were to ignore the anti-revolutionary character of religion».

It continues: — The obstacles left behind by the old feudal order are the most difficult to disentangle. They are at times easy and at other times difficult to destroy. The obstacles that we find in the churches and the mosque are of course the most difficult to tackle.

«Today when the Ethiopian revolution is giving hope it is evident that the places of worship have become tools to frustrate the workers' movement. Since the victory of the masses on land tenure and the eventual redistribution of church proper-

ty, it was assumed that religious movements would run short of funds and the religious workers would gradually disperse, resulting in the elimination of one source of oppression.

«We realise today that two things are happening simultaneously. First, church funds have not dried up. The pay for church and mosque workers remains the same and they seem to work with renewed vigour and spirit.

«Secondly, not only are there funds for the places of worship, but the number of the believers in both churches and mosques is on the increase.

«It is evident that the expenditure for all this comes from donations from the believers. If the revolution is to attain its final goal, it is of the utmost importance to conduct a campaign against religion and to eliminate once and for all this dangerous anti-revolutionary cancer».

The document gives a good example of how religion can act as a rallying force. It refers to Afghanistan where «the anti-people have been able to rally together because of their religious fa-

naticism». It is pointed out that the use of petrodollars provided by the Arab countries has helped put Islam in the ascendant.

The document goes on:-

«Such countries as Saudi Arabia, that are the foot-stools of the imperialist, aid Moslems morally and financially, not purely on religious grounds but because they are opposed to Marxism Leninism and because they are opposed abandoning their position of privilege over the oppressed masses. This is their way of blocking the Soviet Union's voice from reaching the oppressed».

Although the Ethiopian Government appears confident in carrying out its suppression of religion, it finds this much more difficult when dealing with the Moslems. The document explains: «It is important that great care should be taken not to antagonise the progressive Arab countries, nor to give them any grounds to blame the Soviet Union».

«Nevertheless, we emphasise that all religions must be uprooted and destroyed».

So far as Christianity is concerned: The great monasteries, such as at Aksum, Debra Damo, Lalibela, Debra Libanos, together with church buildings in Addis Ababa, Gojjan, Gondar, Wallo and other places should all be converted into Art museums, so that the masses will view (Lit, use) them as historic slogans» (sic).

In a section dealing with the need to build conflict between Christians and Moslems the document states: «Thanks to Arab petro-dollars, Islam is today experiencing a revival and is being listened to more.»

«Even though Muslims in Ethiopia number slightly less than the rest of the oppressed masses, they have suffered equally, along with Christians, the burden of the feudal-bourgeois order. In the campaign to uproot and destroy religion throughout Ethiopia, at this juncture in time when our revolution is

cornered by the conspiracies of the imperialist camp, it is necessary to employ new methods and tactics to destroy the Muslims. This agitation should constitute the second round. Even so, taking into consideration the age-old animosity between Christians and Muslims it will be beneficial to exploit and foment conflict between these two reactionary camps».

The document, which so far has been circulated to administrative officials only, concludes:

«We must use the mass media to teach the masses to realize that this is a world of work and not of spiritualism and morals and that the teaching of religion is against their own freedom. Furthermore, we should agitate and organise youth who might otherwise join the service of religious groups».

From the «Voice of the Arab World» Feb. 1982.

FRENCH IGN UNDERTAKING MAPPING PROJECT

Libreville L'UNION in French 9 Feb 82 p 4

[Article by Neltoh: "Gabon in 400 Maps"]

[Text] "Cartography provides a documentary basis for national development," said the state secretary for public lands, land survey, city planning and housing, Mr Gaston-Felicien Olouna, in a visit Saturday to Leon Mba Airport, where he went aboard the French National Geographic Institute (IGN) aircraft.

The institute, whose central African headquarters is in Libreville, will take aerial photographs of Gabon for a 2-month period as part of a cartography program. Some 400 maps will be produced, with widely differing purposes for various agencies, such as Public Lands, Public Works, Civil Aviation, Territorial Administration, Agriculture, Waters and Forests and National Defense.

It is really a question of bringing old maps up to date, while taking into account the special environmental program that requires Gabon's central provinces to be given larger scale coverage.

To this end, the institute has taken shots of Libreville, Ntoum, Kango, Ndjole, Lambarene, Franceville, Koulamoutou, Tchibanga and Oyem. This year cities such as Mouila, Booue, Lastourville, Fougamou, Ndende, Moanda and Cocobeach, which have not yet been photographed because of poor weather, will be covered.

These photos will also be useful in city planning, said Mr Olouna, with the preparation of maps on a scale of 1:100,000 and 1:20,000, which will facilitate the preparation of a preliminary town planning model in conjunction with the Economic and Social Studies Development Company (SEDES).

That company is preparing a national land use plan for the Land Registration Ministry. Indeed, all this mapping creates the basic documents needed for studies of city planning and land development.

How are the photos used to prepare the maps? Mr Lamy, the regional IGN representative, said that geographic maps are prepared in six stages.

First, the aerial photography itself; second, development of the photographs on the ground; third, identification by a work team of points whose coordinates and

altitude are known; fourth, the plotting of the aerial photographs on ultra-precise instruments using two shots simultaneously (this enable the technician to follow all the contours of the terrain, both with respect to roads and also to dwellings, rivers, vegetation boundaries and relief); fifth, tabularizing the names of the various localities in association with the local population and officials.

The final stage will be to draw and print the maps in a four-color process, at a scale of 1:50,000, the scale selected for Gabon's cartographic plan.

9516

CSO: 4719/567

GROWTH OF PALM OIL INDUSTRY DESCRIBED

New Plan Inaugurated

Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 16 Feb 82 p 1

[Excerpts] A processing factory, 6,496 hectares of oil palm, 6,736 hectares of coconut trees, a work force of 2,500 officials, office employees, and laborers, costing 21 billion CFA [African Financial Community] francs. In brief, this is the picture of the agroindustrial effort undertaken by the Palminindustrie Company in the southwestern part of the country and specifically in a region called Bas-Cavally, near Tabou.

This is the 12th agroindustrial center to be established for the palm oil company. Last Friday [12 February] it was officially turned over to the company for operation by Minister of Agriculture Bra Kanon who, on this occasion, was accompanied by Minister of Plan and Industry Maurice Seri Gnoleba and by Minister of Commerce Amoakon Edjampan Thiemele.

When it is fully operating, the agroindustrial center of Bas-Cavally, according to the director general of the palm industry, Kone Dossongui, will have a business turnover outside the factory for all of its products of more than 5 billion CFA francs at today's rate of exchange (27,000 tons of palm oil, 26,000 tons of copra, 4,300 tons of palm oil seeds).

Meeting Fat Requirements

Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 16 Feb 82 p 8

[Text] Traditional domestic resources for edible fats are essentially as follows: palm oil fruit and oil produced by the people in the forested areas; smallholder production of peanuts in the grasslands area.

The policy of agricultural diversification undertaken in 1960 set in motion important development programs for the raising of palm oil trees along the coast and cotton in the north of the country.

The marketing of refined oil from these programs in the Ivory Coast market has grown very rapidly: the Blohorn Company in 1970 purchased nearly 9,500 tons of unrefined palm oil from SODEPALM [Company for the Development and Exploitation of

to Palm Oil] to refine it and sell it essentially on the local market. Exports accounted for 54 percent of total production under the palm oil plan. In 1981 Blohorn bought 85,000 tons of unrefined oil. It marketed 49,450 tons of refined oil and margarine locally, while exports of unrefined oil under the palm oil plan did not amount to more than 31 percent of total production: the Trituraf Company began to produce refined cottonseed oil in 1975 (previously, the seeds were exported), and in 1980 its sales amounted to nearly 13,000 tons, all of it on the domestic market.

It appears that the consumption of edible fats produced by small businesses has considerably decreased. Nevertheless, agricultural statistics continue to mention the following: nearly 7,000 tons of small business produced palm oil out of 200,000 tons of fruit harvested (this is a figure which the village plantings of palm fruit in enclosed areas have difficulty in meeting: 1979 - 135,000 tons; 1980 - 214,000 tons; 1981 - 183,000 tons).

Industry Generates Jobs

Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 16 Feb 82 p 9

[Text] Out of 32,000 jobs provided by the Palminindustrie Company, SODESUCRE [Company for the Development of Sugarcane and the Industrialization and Marketing of Sugar], SOGB [Grand Bereby Rubber Company], and SAPH [African Hevea Plantations Company] and which make it possible to pay 14 billion CFA francs per year in salaries, only 16,000 jobs are held by citizens of Ivory Coast. Moreover, the shortage in nonspecialized labor is now 6,000 jobs. That is how Minister of Agriculture Bra Kanon depicted the situation which exists today in the agricultural sector.

That is the inexplicable paradox in which some of our unemployed compatriots live and which lead people to believe that it is not really true that they cannot find a job. They are very numerous. They are to be found everywhere, without exception, in the streets and outside the offices of OMOCI [Ivory Coast Employment Office]. They continue to wait, refusing the numerous jobs offered them in the agricultural sector, through the companies mentioned above. These jobs, in addition to a salary, also provide a number of social benefits, including schooling, medical dispensaries, housing, and running water and electricity provided free of charge to village distribution systems.

Those of the jobless who are considering going to work on the land are waiting for a program of "Aid to the Farmers." They think that this is a collection of magic, a catalogue of projects which will begin to be implemented at any moment. "Aid to the farmer," Bra Kanon has said, "includes all these daily rural activities, all these prospects for development which emerge every day in all parts of the country. Today it is the Iboke agroindustrial project, a real program for development."

Bra Kanon continued, saying that agriculture is a noble activity which never lets you down. On the contrary, all those who have agreed to work in this field, whether it involves cocoa, coffee, rubber, or palm oil fruit, are for us witnesses to this statement. May their example inspire many citizens of the Ivory Coast to agree to sign up for increased work on the land.

5170
CSO: 4719/605

COMMENTS ON GOVERNMENT MOVE TO RESTRICT LIBYAN INFLUENCE

Support by MMM

Port Louis THE NATION in French 2 Feb 82 p 4

[Text] There have been strong reactions by the MMM [Mauritius Militant Movement] against the decision by the government to remind the Libyan Arab People's Bureau of the need to respect certain principles, particularly that of noninterference in Mauritian internal affairs. In this connection we noted yesterday [1 February] the sharp comments in the weekly publication, HORIZONS NOUVEAUX, a weekly which reflects the opinion of groups rather close to the leadership of the MMM, but which are more extremist on the subject of the "new social consensus" in particular.

Yesterday [1 February] LE NOUVEAU MILITANT tried to strike an even balance, recalling the Libyan achievements, the contributions of that country in the struggle of the Third World "against Western imperialism and its consequences." However, the newspaper admits there have been some excesses. It notes: "However, the truth is also that some things have gone beyond the strict diplomatic framework which all Libyan representatives in Mauritius should have respected, in the interests of the young Mauritian nation and the relations between our two countries."

The newspaper goes on to say: "On that subject the leaders of the MMM have discussed it with those concerned on several occasions." We note that, when Boodhoo denounced Libyan interference, the MMM reacted against his statement. Quite recently, the statement by Deerpaising concerning the coup d'etat in Ghana angered the MMM.

The MMM hastens to state that once it is in power it will ensure that there is no foreign interference. However, it attacks the government, which it accuses of trampling on "the friendship between countries when it employs these crudely electoral and profoundly dangerous maneuvers." It is this last phrase which we should keep in mind above all: "Together with its membership, the MMM believes that the government is trampling on the friendship between Libya and Mauritius."

Welded to its membership, the MMM couldn't have said it better!

CAM on Government Attitude

Port Louis THE NATION in French 3 Feb 82 p 1

[Text] The Muslim Action Committee [CAM] yesterday [2 February] afternoon published the following communique after the decision by the government to restrain the activities of the Libyan People's Bureau in Mauritius:

"The Executive Council of the Muslim Action Committee, at an urgently called meeting on Monday, 1 February, in Port Louis, has analyzed the recent communique issued by the office of the prime minister on Mauritian-Libyan relations.

- (a) It does not approve the communique as drawn up;
- (b) It condemns unreservedly the way in which the said communique was broadcast by the Mauritius Broadcasting Corporation;
- (c) It regrets that the prime minister did not consider it appropriate to consult the Cabinet on so fundamental and so serious a question;
- (d) It has decided to organize meetings throughout the country to denounce the intrigues carried on by certain parties having the evident purpose of denigrating a friendly country and of damaging good relations between Libya and Mauritius;
- (e) It calls on the Muslim community to keep calm and to remain vigilant in the face of the campaign of intimidation carried on in certain quarters; and
- (f) It expresses its deep disquiet at the attack made on the religious liberty of the Islamic faith. Signed A. R. Peeroo, president; A. R. Bundhun, secretary."

5170

CSO: 4719/572

GOVERNMENT ACTS TO CURTAIL LIBYAN ACTIVITIES

Harsh Warning to Libya

Port Louis L'EXPRESS in French 31 Jan 82 p 1

[Text] The Mauritian Government has finally decided to rein in Libyan diplomats in Mauritius. In a bulletin issued by the Prime Minister's Office yesterday, the government states that it is no longer willing to tolerate certain conduct on the part of diplomats serving in our country and expects that a number of principles be respected.

There are certain principles which the Mauritian Government expects foreign diplomats serving in Mauritius to respect in their relations with individuals and organizations and in general, these principles have been respected in the past. However, it has become obvious that certain diplomats, particularly those with the Libyan mission, tend to ignore them.

The Mauritian Government has therefore called the attention of Libyan diplomats to a number of provisions that apply equally to other diplomatic missions accredited in Mauritius and expects them to be scrupulously respected. It was also stated that failure to do so could have unfortunate consequences for relations between Libya and the island of Mauritius.

The Mauritian Government has therefore asked that there be an immediate halt in all direct financing from Libya or Libyan organizations to Mauritian individuals or organizations. Any gift which Libya wishes to grant should be channeled through the Office of the Prime Minister, stating the recipient and the reason for the gift and it will be up to the government to make a ruling. Libya and Libyan organizations must also cease granting any financial or other contribution to Mauritian political parties because it represents clear and inadmissible meddling in the country's internal affairs. Libyans must also abstain from asking Mauritian citizens to visit Libya. Such invitations must be made known to the government beforehand and previous authorization received before the invitations may be issued.

Libya was also asked to stop financing any newspaper, periodical or other propaganda publication in Mauritius considered by the government to constitute interference in Mauritian affairs.

The following is the complete text of the bulletin [in English]:

For some time past, the Government of Mauritius has felt concerned about certain activities in the country on the part of foreign powers which it considers to be inconsistent with the proper relationships that should exist.

2. There are certain guidelines which the Government of Mauritius expects foreign diplomatic missions to observe in their relations with individuals or organizations in the country and these have, generally speaking, been adhered to in the past. However, more recently, it has become clear that there has been a tendency not to respect these guidelines and, particularly, by the representatives in Mauritius of the Libyan People's Arab Jamahiriya.

3. The Government of Mauritius has therefore, through the proper diplomatic channels, drawn the attention of the representatives of Libya in Mauritius to the following guidelines, which apply with equal force to any other diplomatic missions in Mauritius, and indicated that it expects them to be adhered to scrupulously in [the] future. It has also been brought to the notice of the representatives of Libya that failure to respect these guidelines could have adverse consequences for relations between Libya and Mauritius.

4. The Libyan Government has therefore been asked, from now on:

(a) there is to be no further direct funding from the Government of Libya or private organizations in that country to individuals or organizations in Mauritius. All donations that Libya may wish to offer should be channelled to the Prime Minister's Office with an indication in every case as to the intended recipient and the purpose and the Government of Mauritius will make an appropriate decision thereon;

(b) public and private organizations in Libya are to refrain from making financial or any other sort of contribution to political parties in Mauritius since to do so is a clear and totally unacceptable interference in the internal affairs of the country;

(c) the practice, on the part of the Government and private organizations in Libya, of inviting Mauritian citizens to visit Libya for various purposes will not be persisted in. Instead Libya will indicate to the Government of Mauritius when it proposes to offer such facilities and will obtain the approval of the Government of Mauritius before issuing the invitation to the person or organization concerned.

(d) Libya will, in future, refrain from maintaining or supporting any newspaper, periodical or other propaganda publication in Mauritius since this also is regarded by the Government of Mauritius as totally unacceptable interference in the internal affairs of this country.

Prime Minister's Office
Port Louis
30 January 1982

The bulletin, read both in French and Creole on MBC [Mauritius Broadcasting Corporation] information bulletins, states that: *Pas mette nene dans zaffaire nou pays* [Don't stick your nose in our country's business].

Peeroo Condemns Anti-Libyan Bulletin

Port Louis L'EXPRESS in French 3 Feb 82 p 1

[Text] While the Libyan ambassador to Mauritius, on whom restrictions have been placed, awaits instructions from Tripoli, there have been ripples in at least one political party.

The CAM [Moslem Action Committee]; whose president is A. R. Peeroo, minister of labor, sent a note to the press yesterday, a note also signed by Secretary R. Bundhun, former minister, condemning the measures taken by the government "with respect to a friendly country, measures that could harm good relations between Libya and the island of Mauritius."

Peeroo, minister in the current coalition government, separated himself from the action taken by the government and supports his position by advancing the following two points: He believes that the measures taken with respect to Libya should have been discussed by the Cabinet, since the current government is a coalition government that exists thanks to an understanding between three partners (the Labor Party, the PMSD [Mauritian Social Democratic Party] and the CAM). He adds that he does not believe that he is failing in his collective responsibility by signing the note because he believes that the bulletin comes only from the prime minister, which is equivalent to saying that the decision to apply the measures in question and to issue the bulletin does not come from the government as such but only from the prime minister, who is only the acting prime minister to boot.

The bulletin was issued following a meeting of the Executive Committee of the CAM held Monday evening, following an analysis of the government's communique on measures taken with respect to the Libyan Embassy in Mauritius. The CAM, which does not approve of the communique, condemns the way it was published and makes an appeal for calm and vigilance. It expresses its regret that the prime minister did not see fit to consult with the Cabinet on such a "fundamental and serious" matter.

Sir Veerasamy Ringadoo, acting prime minister, was questioned by L'EXPRESS yesterday on the two points put forth by the minister of labor, according to which he reportedly acted alone in deciding the measures contained in the government communique dated 30 January. Ringadoo, in a moderate tone, said: "I believe that Peeroo is mistaken. I believe that Peeroo should know his work. I do not want to make any comment on Peeroo's statements or on the terms of the bulletin he signed, but if he is not satisfied in the government, he knows very well what he can do."

As for Libya's official reactions, the prime minister said that there had not yet been any official reaction.

11,464
CSO: 4719/557

MAURITIUS

ARTICLE NOTES DISAGREEMENT ON LIBYA, 'COMORAN-LIBYAN RELATIONS'

Port Louis LE NOUVEAU MILITANT in French 23 Jan 82 p 4

[Article: "MMM and PSM not on the Same Wavelength"]

[Text] No Proof of Libyan Involvement
Surprise in Comoran-Libyan Relations
The leaders of the MMM [Mauritian Militant Movement] and the PSM [Mauritian Socialist Party] exchanged views Thursday evening on a variety of subjects including recent statements by K. Deerpalsingh, president of the PSM, to the effect that recently Libya "reportedly helped Rowlings overthrow President Limann" in Ghana.

After having heard K. Deerpalsingh, the MMM leaders remain of the opinion that, on the basis of all available information at this time there is no proof or concrete indication that Libya took any effective part in the preparations or execution of the recent coup in Ghana.

The MMM notes that with regard to that coup not even the U.S. State Department brought any accusation against Libya.

Comoran-Libyan Relations

On the other hand, the MMM professes to be surprised that the president of the Comoros, Mr Ahmed Abdallah, was invited to make an official visit to Libya early this month and that a reconciliation between the Abdallah regime and Libya appears to be underway at a time when the [Comoran] regime is bogged down in generalized deterioration and repression, and even though in recent weeks it seems to have been established that it was at the port of Moroni, in the Comoros, that the aircraft which transported the mostly South African mercenaries who attempted to carry off a coup in the Seychelles last November picked up the commando team's weapons, disguised as gifts to invalid children.

The weekly LA LETTRE DE L'OCEAN INDIEN even said on 12 December that the arms delivery had been organized by Bob Denard, who arrived in the Comoros of 19 November from South Africa.

The MMM is concerned about the effects of this Comoran-Libyan rapprochement on relations between Libya and the Seychelles and Madagascar.

9516

CSO: 4719/587

OPPOSITION LEADER WOULD ALLOW FREE PRESS, ACCOMMODATE PRIVATE SECTOR

Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French 1 Feb 82 pp 5-6

[Interview with Aneerood Jugnauth, Queen's counsel, by Sydney Selvon on 28 Jan 82, place not given]

[Text] In a few months, Aneerood Jugnauth, QC and leader of the opposition, will go before the Mauritian voters to ask them to cast their ballots for a new government headed by him. However, there are still many questions that he must answer in order to enlighten the electorate about what Mauritius would be like under a team of leaders he would head.

LE MAURICIEN put some of these questions to him, first of all, concerning how he would handle the written press and the MBC/TV [Mauritius Broadcasting Corporation] if he should come to power. Jugnauth asserted his commitment to the continuation of a free press and for allowing the MBC/TV to finally become accessible to opposition parties, even rightist parties, if they are represented in Parliament or, if not, if they are sufficiently representative of public opinion.

The prime minister designate in the alternative MMM/PSM [Mauritian Socialist Party] government maintains his attachment to the cause of the Third World with respect to the two superpowers, with respect to foreign relations. Concerning Libya, he refuses to make a "casual" judgment because, he said, of "the Libyan Government's achievements in many areas in Libya, particularly housing and the distribution of the national patrimony." But he states that any country, including Libya, would encounter the intransigence of an MMM/PSM government if there were any attempt to meddle in the internal affairs of the island of Mauritius. Jugnauth also told us during the interview, which took place on Thursday (before the Mauritian note limiting Libyan activities in Mauritius and published on Saturday -- see below), that in this case, it is up to the Mauritian Government to take the necessary steps if it believes there is interference by Libya.

Answering the questions we put to him concerning the private sector, Jugnauth noted "little change" from 1976 to 1982 in the attitude of the MMM vis-a-vis the sector, but agreed that there had been a change in that party's approach to relations with management. "The private sector will remain forever," he said. He later stated that there would always be domains reserved for the private sector, "no matter how long a socialist government lasts."

With respect to the economy, he preaches "realism" and emphasizes priorities such as the creation of jobs, revival of the industrial zones and the need to find a correlation between wages and prices. He accepts the relationship between wages and the creation of jobs.

[Question] I would like here to act as the interpreter of journalists in general in asking you a question that constantly comes up among us: Under an MMM/PSM government, what would happen to information in Mauritius? Let us be specific: First of all, what would the status of the written press be?

[Answer] An MMM/PSM government would ensure, just as we so stated in our Joint Government Program, that the press would be free and that it would enjoy all facilities for doing its work, within the framework of the country's laws and constitution, naturally.

[Question] Would rightist parties and groups, groups and parties in opposition to the MMM/PSM government, be free to found newspapers?

[Answer] Referring once again to our Joint Government Program, I would remind you that we express there our belief in democracy and in the principle of party pluralism. Naturally, we would also agree for these parties to have the means to make themselves heard and to have newspapers.

[Question] What relations would you wish to establish between the government, if you come to power, naturally, and the Mauritian corps of newsmen?

[Answer] We want to do our best to make them the best possible relations because we are anxious to see the press play its role effectively in order to educate and inform the public about what the government is doing, educate and give objective information on everything happening here and elsewhere. There would also be criticisms here and there, if necessary.

[Question] Will MBC/TV reporters be free to cover the activities of the political opposition to your government? Would that opposition have the right to be on television and the radio, even if there are no general elections coming up?

[Answer] In the opposition, we have been fighting with the government and the MBC/TV for a long time so that our voice might be heard through the MBC/TV. To date, we have been unsuccessful. After a takeover by the MMM/PSM, we intend to make a fundamental change in the MBC/TV so that not only the important activities of the opposition (not just any activities, naturally) would be covered, but also so that from time to time, the representatives of the opposition might have an opportunity to come to the MBC/TV to express their views on important, fundamental questions facing the country and the nation.

[Question] Whether these members of the opposition be on the left, the right, or in the center?

[Answer] Any member of the opposition. Naturally, the opposition represented in the Assembly, whether on the left, right or elsewhere.

[Question] But what about political parties not in Parliament?

[Answer] That becomes a little difficult. We can have hundreds of parties, growing like mushrooms after the rain, and we would not know what to do. There have to be limits because after all, one cannot turn the MBC/TV into some kind of bazaar.

[Question] The MMM itself was a party outside of Parliament.

[Answer] Yes, but it was in a given context, in which there was truly no opposition to Parliament. In a similar situation, we have to see which is the real parliamentary opposition that truly represents public opinion, to a certain extent at least. One cannot open the doors of radio and television to the first group that comes along and says it is an opposition party. That would end up being outrageous. The MBC/TV would have to have some discretionary power with respect to parties not in Parliament.

[Question] From 1976 to 1982, something seems to have changed in the perception of the MMM of the Mauritian private sector. What is the nature of that change, if, indeed, there was one? What brought it about?

[Answer] From 1976 to 1982, I would not say that there was any great change. Actually, how does the MMM view the role of the private sector in the country under an MMM/PSM government? That role has never been emphasized in the past by the MMM. What we have done over these past 5 years was to emphasize the role that the private sector would play in an economy of transition to socialism. And perhaps that is what makes people believe there has been a change in the MMM's attitude toward the private sector. As we have always said, the private sector will continue to exist and play its role. On the contrary, in the MMM, we believe that all possibilities must exist so that the private sector may fully play its role, especially with respect to the creation of jobs. Finally, the private sector will be here forever. Except in the nationalized sector, its role will gradually decrease.

[Question] Is it possible that following a takeover, there might be an about-face of the MMM and that the number of nationalizations would be suddenly increased, while the attitude of the MMM grows more radical in general with respect to the private sector?

[Answer] I would say no, because....

[Question] You are categorical?

[Answer] Yes, I am categorical because one has to be realistic. And even if one wanted to change attitudes, that would be impossible, given our economic situation. There is a fair number of limitations with respect to our economic situation. I repeat that which I personally say everywhere in the meetings and elsewhere, that we come before the voters for a term of 5 years with a precise program. For us, it is a contract between the MMM and the PSM, on the one hand, and the people, on the other. And when I say the people, I also mean the private sector. It is a contract that we intend to honor. And I give my guarantee that we are going

to proceed as we have said, phase by phase. We do not want to abruptly overturn all the existing structures.

[Question] The MMM has always warned the private sector against possible support for the opposition in order to boycott it if it should come to power. Do you believe that this risk of a boycott on the part of the private sector still exists?

[Answer] We are speaking here about a rightist opposition, supported by the private sector. That possibility still exists. We can observe that there are at the present time different factions within the private sector. For example, one faction wants to evolve and accepts dialog and even the participation of cadres and workers in different sectors of the enterprises. One can easily see this in what is said by persons such as Francis Rey and Rawaf [text unclear], among others. There is definitely a certain evolution among certain Mauritian and even foreign manufacturers. They realize that we are living in modern times, that we are moving in the direction of change in Mauritius and that it will be necessary to adapt to that change. On the other hand, there are others, who are much more orthodox, much more conservative, who want to maintain a situation that belongs to the past. We fear that this category of owners will try to boycott socialist changes that an MMM-PSM government will try to bring about. Naturally, we warn them because one cannot go against the will of the people and because one has to respect the verdict -- if there is one -- for change. We hope that in the end, all owners will understand that.

[Question] What do you reply to those who, on your left, in the MMM and elsewhere, accuse your party of having deviated, of having arrived at compromises with the private sector?

[Answer] I would say that those people are wrong to make such accusations because the MMM has not deviated in any way from its determination to bring about change, to set up structures in order to finally create a socialist society in Mauritius. What has changed is only the means chosen to achieve this, the way to proceed in order to achieve our objective. Do they speak of compromises? I wonder. Where? All that we have done is to face reality and, as I have just emphasized, the private sector is not going to disappear overnight. A socialist government will have to work along with the private sector, with respect to the economy, because that sector will also have its role to play. But naturally, as we have always emphasized, the driving force of the national economy must emanate from and be guided by socialist principles.

[Question] When you say that the private sector will not disappear overnight, this naturally implies that it should, in your view, disappear in the long run. But you just said that it will exist forever.

[Answer] I just repeated what some have already said. There are persons who think that with the advent of a socialist government, the private sector will disappear. I say that that is not correct. And we know that the private sector is not going to disappear, no matter how long a socialist government lasts, because there will always be sectors in which it will exist.

[Question] On the left and on the right, few Mauritians [text illegible] of the MMM with respect to foreign policy. The return of the cold war, which has made nonalignment very difficult, and the role of the superpowers in San Salvador [sic] and Afghanistan, to take but two examples, complicates things even further. As president of the MMM and prime minister in the MMM/PSM shadow cabinet, how do you view the state of the world today and what foreign policy would you derive from it for an MMM/PSM government?

[Answer] I do not believe that it is any more difficult today to follow a Third Worldist, nonaligned policy. On the contrary, we believe that the greater the conflict between the two superpowers, the greater the risk, not only of a cold war, but of a real war. There must be a policy of neutral countries, a European policy, a policy of the OAU, of the Third World, in order to achieve a balance, counter tension and prevent it from leading to real war. With respect to our relations with OAU and nonaligned countries, it is naturally understood that we shall be much closer to those countries in order to emphasize even more our independence vis-a-vis the two superpowers, the United States and the USSR. The same is true of the Arab countries. Regarding Europe, we are part of the Common Market and we are going to continue to be part of it under an MMM-PSM government. And naturally, we shall gain by furthering our relations with Europe, particularly France. With respect to the Third World, our relations should be expanded, I emphasize once again, with India in particular.

[Question] What disagreements are there between the MMM and the PSM regarding foreign policy?

[Answer] There truly are none except with respect to the role played by Libya on the international scene and in Mauritius. We have already examined the question. We retain our view, but that in no way brings our Third Worldist and non-aligned policy into question.

[Question] And what is your evaluation of what is happening in Poland?

[Answer] I am truly sorry about what is happening in Poland. It is a tragedy that that country should have reached such a situation. The responsibility is certainly shared. We hope that the situation will return to normal as soon as possible. In the MMM, we have endured repression. We understand, more than anyone else in Mauritius, what the current situation means to the Polish people.

[Question] It is said that some "minimize" the role of the USSR in what is happening in Poland.

[Answer] We have nothing to minimize. It is clear that there are two superpowers today, each one exercising its influence over a bloc of countries. We see America, on the one hand, trying to keep under its influence certain countries that have pro-American regimes, while on the other hand, the USSR is doing the same with other countries with a pro-Soviet regime. If each one believed in the independence and sovereignty of the other countries, those countries would be left to do what it wants at home. When there was a revolution in America, when the Americans were fighting the colonial power that oppressed them, they would never have tolerated foreign intervention against their revolution, just as the

Soviets, when they made their revolution, had the same attitude. I believe that some powers should remember their own history and respect the freedom of others.

[Question] If you come to power, you could find yourself wedged, in your economic policy, between urgent demands for wage increases, wage compensation and reforms in the plants, on the one hand, and the urgent need to create new jobs in order to absorb unemployment and maintain the profitability of enterprises in order to prevent layoffs, on the other hand. What would your priorities be in such a situation?

[Answer] We shall clearly inherit a catastrophic situation and I repeat: The Mauritian people must not believe that all of our problems will be resolved after a change in government. We must do everything possible to get our economic back on its feet. This requires sacrifices and the example here must come from above. Everyone must work hard and with discipline in order to increase productivity and increase our national "pie." Naturally, our priorities will include the fight against unemployment. We must do everything possible to create productive jobs for the unemployed. We must restore order in the public services, where there are persons with more than one job and who will have to see if they should not be content with a single one and make room for others. There is also the case of the retired who are rehired under contracts, which must be reviewed. We must make room for the young. Naturally, agriculture must be diversified and enterprises in our industrial zones revived. We shall have to do everything to improve the fate of those at the bottom of the ladder and guarantee a decent living for the entire population. We shall have to pay a great deal of attention to the problem of water, not only for domestic needs, but also for agriculture and industry. We shall have to do everything to prevent layoffs.

[Question] Do you not agree that moderation is needed with respect to wage demands?

[Answer] Naturally, there must be an overall price/wage policy in order not to upset the entire economy.

[Question] A wage policy that does not prevent the creation of jobs, a, let us say, wage/job-creation policy?

[Answer] Yes. We shall indeed need a price/wage policy going hand in hand with a wage/job policy in order to prevent any worsening of the unemployment situation. Only after 2 or 3 years of efforts will we note the fruits of the efforts made by an MMM/PSM government.

[Question] You nevertheless foresee some friction between your government, if you win the elections, naturally, and the trade unions?

[Answer] With respect to unions in the GWF [General Workers Federation], we are in the process of a project aimed at making them aware of the real problems which a socialist government must face. At the same time, we are going to do everything so that federation will retain its independence vis-a-vis the government and work to improve the fate of workers. We foresee no difficulties with the GWF. There might be some with other trade unions, but there, the government will have

to do a great deal of educating so that the people will understand in what situation a new government will have to work and so that they realize that they must give the government a reasonable amount of time in order to improve the people's purchasing power.

[Question] Every time there is a crisis in Mauritius, many people want to emigrate. That is the case now. Do you advise people who can to emigrate? What will your policy on emigration be if you come to power?

[Answer] It is true that every time we are in a critical situation, when unemployment is high, the young people are desperate and emigration is very tempting. Under an MMM/PSM government, we are not going to prevent people from emigrating if they wish to do so. On the contrary, there must be planned emigration. But at the same time, we are asking upper-level management personnel, intellectuals and people with trades who can be useful to the country not to leave, in order to prevent our having to appeal to foreigners. I firmly believe, moreover, in family planning because I believe that our resources are very limited and the country is very small, which means that we cannot have uncontrolled population growth.

[Question] With respect to foreign policy, your adversaries have made a great deal of Libya's activities in the country and this has brought you into opposition with the PSM. What is your position on the subject?

[Answer] Regarding Libya, we have always maintained good relations with it. We have even called it a brother country because it is a socialist country. It is one of the few Arab nations where they have actually created a society which, from total underdevelopment, has evolved into a society with a modern standard of living where each family has its own house, a decent house, and a guaranteed minimum living wage. In fact, they have attained objectives at which we are still aiming. That is why we have a great deal of sympathy and a great deal of friendship for the Libyan people. We do not wish to make casual remarks that might harm it.

[Question] But there has been talk, mainly in the PSM, of Libyan meddling in the country's domestic affairs.

[Answer] They have spoken of Libyan intervention in Chad, for example. We know that Libya was asked for help by the regime in power in Chad. Finally, Libya did withdraw and even after the arrival of the OAU forces, we have seen what is happening in Chad today. In contrast, there are certain countries which intervene elsewhere without being called on to do so. We must not forget that. Even in Ghana today, for example, it was in response to Rawlings' request that Libya went into that country. In Mauritius, they also speak about intervention. Actually, they have exaggerated greatly. They speak of a newspaper financed by Libya, which attacks certain political parties and tries to influence others. In fact, embassies in certain other countries even have newspapers to get their views across and to spread their policies in countries where they have penetrated. It is a matter of evaluation. But our policy is clear: We do not accept any intervention by anyone, any foreign country, in our domestic affairs. If any country, including Libya, should try to do something similar, we would put it in its place. In Mauritius, the government is in charge and if there is interference, then it is up to the government to take the necessary measures.

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PSM HITS POSTPONEMENT OF VILLAGE ELECTIONS

Port Louis LE NOUVEAU MILITANT in French 1 Feb 82 pp 1, 4

[Text] A stroke of the pen was enough to make a joke of democracy, with respect to the village councils, which last week were turned into administrative boards by a ministerial decree, even though the Constitution guarantees the citizens the democratic right to elect their representatives to the regional administration. It was in these terms that the PSM [Mauritian Socialist Party], through its secretary general, A. Parsooramen, raised its voice against the government's decision to postpone the village elections indefinitely.

In the opinion of the PSM secretary general, this action confirms the fact that the PT/PMSD/CAM/Transfuges [Labor Party/Mauritian Social Democratic Party/Moslem Action Committee/Transfuges] coalition is antidemocratic. The very same people pose as the great defenders of democracy when in fact they are the gravediggers and assassins of democracy. The regime in power has made use of its parliamentary majority on numerous occasions to make a farce of democracy. For years both rural and municipal elections have been postponed by decree to insure the political survival of the regime and to protect its notorious stooges.

A. Parsooramen has pointed out that from 1969 to 1981 there should have been four elections, but there were only two--12 September 1971 and 22 January 1979. Even the general elections scheduled for 1972 were postponed to 1976.

With respect to the upcoming legislative elections, the PT/PMSD/Transfuges coalition would not for one moment hesitate to postpone them for several years more, especially since it knows it will be swept out of power by the wave of change.

In addition, the PSM spokesman said that the slanderous campaign to the effect that any possible MMM/PSM government would repress democracy and freedom arises simply from intellectual dishonesty and unforgivable scurrilousness. An MMM/PSM government--as stated in its governmental program--would guarantee the populace that it would facilitate the flourishing of democracy by reestablishing the partial elections, and by respecting the rights of all Mauritians to go to the polls every 5 years. In the same breath Parsooramen

hailed the courage of the MMM for stepping down from the regional administrations when their terms expired in December 1979. This was concrete proof that the MMM and its ally, the PSM, do not intend to thwart democracy in the smallest degree. The same principle inspired the PSM secretary general to submit his resignation as a member of the village council of Petit Raffray, though he was asked to sit as a commissioner on the administrative board of the same village.

9516

CSO: 4719/587

DE L'ESTRAC REPORTS ON SUCCESS OF 'DIPLOMATIC' TRIP

Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French 1 Feb 82 p 4

[Text] Jean-Claude de l'Estrac, minister in the kitchen cabinet of the MMM, and Cassam Uteem, head of relations with political parties, returned home yesterday following a trip that took them to Paris and Algiers. "The visit enabled us to enjoy a triple success on the diplomatic level and to see the interest which many governments have in the possible advent of an MMM/PSM [Malagasy Socialist Party] government in Mauritius," De l'Estrac said.

The two members of the MMM first of all went to Algiers, in response to an invitation from the Algerian National Liberation Front, which is in power in that country. The delegation was received in a very official fashion. Greeted at the Algiers airport by Lazhari Cheriet, head of the department of relations with parties, and Sadek Zouaten, head of liberation movements, as well as by officials from the Department of Protocol, the MMM delegation was received that same day at Zighout Youcef Palace in Algiers, where Mohamed Cherif Mesaadia, the second-ranking man in the Algerian regime, resides. "This visit enabled us to enrich ourselves with Algeria's experiment in practical nonalignment, which causes that country to enjoy considerable prestige in Africa, the Arab world, Europe and even in the United States," De l'Estrac said.

The MMM delegation took advantage of the opportunity to lay the foundations for economic and commercial cooperation that could offer very interesting prospects to Mauritian exporters and importers. In the course of discussions with Algerian officials, "the MMM was happy to note broad agreement between itself and the FLN, particularly with respect to the role of the OAU and the Movement of Nonaligned Nations and in particular, on our common analysis of the role of the superpowers in the Indian Ocean."

After Algiers, De l'Estrac and Uteem went to Paris, where they were received at the Elysee Palace by Guy Penne, adviser to President Mitterrand for African and Malagasy affairs. De l'Estrac said that the meeting resulted in a review of the world political scene, particularly the situation in the Indian Ocean. "We have excellent reasons to think that future relations between the French socialist government and a possible MMM/PSM government would promote the economic development of Mauritius and should not suffer from any controversies," he said.

In Paris, the MMM delegation had the opportunity to meet Majaraj Krishan Ras-
cotra, who will soon be appointed foreign secretary of the government of India.
Consequently, for the two members of the MMM, it was an opportunity to establish
contact with the person who will be responsible for all foreign matters, parti-
cularly future Indo-Mauritian relations. "Furthermore, I found him very well-
informed on the domestic situation in Mauritius and on our diplomacy, which
greatly facilitated our task," De l'Estrac concluded.

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CSO: 4719/556

JAPAN AWAITS ELECTION RESULTS BEFORE GRANTING AID

Fishing Port To Be Exception

Port Louis L'EXPRESS in French 20 Jan 82 pp 1, 6

[Text] Japan has decided to review its economic cooperation with Mauritius. The immediate effect of the decision will be a freeze on the processing of all Mauritian development projects submitted to the Japanese Government.

This is what emerges from a bulletin issued by a high Japanese official. However, it is stated that the Japanese Government's decision will not concern projects now being carried out (Albion Research Center, for example) or projects being negotiated with the private sector. With respect to the latter, these are mainly financing or investment agreements.

The reasons motivating the Japanese decision are not known. Nevertheless, it is said that, following the example of many international financing institutions or even of certain countries, Japan prefers to await the results of the general elections before embarking upon an aid program for Mauritius.

In government circles, it is said that nothing is officially known about the Japanese decision, but it is agreed that negotiations concerning the financing of various projects involving the infrastructure, technical assistance or direct aid in its diverse forms, are not moving along as the government would have wished.

One of the main projects involved in the Japanese decision, one very dear to the government, concerns the construction of a fishing port in the port region. It was originally planned that the fishing port was to be built in the vicinity of Roche-Bois and dredging had even begun. The work was subsequently interrupted, following the sinking of the dredger.

The project remained up in the air for several months and the government, while retaining its initial project -- that is, a fishing port completely detached from other port activities -- studied several versions of the project. Finally, according to our information, it was the reorganization of Pier C, the one now used, among other things, for the shipping of goods to Rodrigues, that was chosen.

Construction of a fishing port at Pier C would be more economical and would present other practical advantages.

Cost of the project is an estimated 50 million rupees. When approached to finance the project, the Japanese Government reportedly showed a great deal of interest in the completion of such a facility and reportedly suggested the opening of negotiations that allegedly led to the signing of a wide-ranging agreement to work the marine resources of the Mauritian economic zone.

According to information reaching L'EXPRESS, the Japanese Government reportedly agreed, not only to finance the proposed construction of a fishing port at Pier C, but also to take over completion of the project completely.

In circles close to the project, it is said that the only one exempted from the Japanese Government's decision to temporarily freeze aid to Mauritius would be the Pier C fishing port.

It should be emphasized that in recent years, relations between the Mauritian and Japanese governments have grown considerably closer and that Japan was becoming one of Mauritius' main suppliers of aid.

Japan To Finance Fishing Port

Port Louis L'EXPRESS in French 24 Jan 82 p 4

[Text] The project to develop a deepwater pier at Trou Fanfaron for the construction of a fishing port has been approved by the government, which is awaiting the first action of the Japanese Government. The project, whose cost is an estimated 50 million rupees, will reportedly be completely financed by the Japanese Government.

The project was discussed at the time of the visit by Minister of Fishing Seetaram to that country. He talked with the Japanese Government about the latest terms for the Albion Research Center, which will be officially opened by acting Prime Minister Veerasamy Ringadoo on Wednesday, 27 January.

The project consists of the development of a deepwater port, with facilities for the shipping and unloading of fish, as well as cold storage chambers and distribution facilities. Construction and development of the port will be entirely up to Japanese technicians, who will soon complete a detailed study of the project. The government hopes, after the project, to set up a national fishing company in order to close the 5-year master plan which the Ministry of Fishing drew up in 1976. Government circles talk of a grant from the Japanese Government, which is interested in this type of projects.

The choice of Trou Fanfaron will be submitted to the team of Japanese technicians who will visit the country in April. Mauritius' dossier, transmitted through the Japanese ambassador, also includes an application for assistance for several fishing projects. Seetaram has already outlined these projects for Japanese authorities.

11,464
CSO: 4719/554

BRIEFS

PSM DISSIDENTS JOIN PIM--The Mauritian Islamic Party (PIM) has two new members, Yusuf Limbada and Siddick Naudeer. The latter have just resigned from the Mauritian Socialist Party (PSM). Yousouf Mohamed, leader of PIM, has said he is very happy to welcome the two new members into his party. Interviewed by THE NATION, Mohamed stated: "The door is open to all those who desire to work alongside PIM, to safeguard liberty and democracy. We welcome people of good will, in order to carry on a campaign against dictatorship." We recall that Limbada and Naudeer had accused the leadership of the PSM of having deviated from its fundamental principles. [Text] [Port Louis THE NATION in French 15 Jan 82 p 1] 5170

CENTRAL ISLAMIC ORGANIZATION ESTABLISHED--Islam was the dominant theme at an important meeting of Mauritian Muslims yesterday [31 January] at the Green Field Garden to establish a central organization to defend the interests of Muslims and to be their spokesman with the authorities. It was on this basis that about 5,000 people heard various religious leaders of the Islamic world, as well as a number of leaders of religious or social organizations. Many banners calling for brotherhood, unity, and the mercy of Allah were displayed around the garden. The principal speaker at the meeting, Sheikh Mustapha Beeharry, imam of Noor-E-Islam Mosque, emphasized that the establishment of such an organism would make it possible for the Muslim community to make its voice heard. The objective would be the well-being of the Muslim community in the country, he said. The imam declared that no community can live in isolation. He said that we have to live in a state of interdependence, in order to preserve the multiracial character of the country. Sheikh Beeharry also declared that attempts to establish unity in the past failed and that this time the initiators of this effort do not want to associate themselves in any way with politics. Many resolutions bearing on the defense of Islamic rights were adopted by the people attending, including among other things that segas, where Muslim names have been used, should be prohibited. [Excerpt] [Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French 1 Feb 82 p 4] 5170

SEYCHELLOIS FISH DEAL--The Mauritian Government has finally decided not to grant the request of the newly formed export-import company, INTRACORP, one of whose directors is none other than the secretary of the MMM, Paul Berenger. The company had expressed the wish to import 13.8 tons of fish into Mauritius from the Seychelles. One of the reasons given by Mauritian authorities for the refusal is that Mauritius now has a stock of 300 tons of fish on hand. [Text] [Port Louis L'EXPRESS in French 23 Jan 82 p 7] 11,464

MOZAMBIQUE

REPORTAGE ON NRM ATTACK ON CHERINGOMA IN SOFALA

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 12 Feb 82 p 1

[Text] Units of the Armed Forces of Mozambique (FPLM), in a joint action with the Defense and Security Forces and the residents of Cheringoma, in Sofala, are continuing their search-and-destroy mission against the armed bands from South Africa that are operating under the cover of the "RNM" [Mozambican National Resistance].

According to the RM-Jornal broadcast of 1910 hours yesterday, in a report from the Radio Mozambique bureau in Beira, the military units are on the trail of the armed bands that attacked and looted the town of Inhamitanga on 30 January.

Meanwhile, the Defense and Security Forces and the local population have recovered the goods and foodstuffs that the bandits stole in their attack on Inhamitanga and then left behind at the scene in their headlong flight.

RM-Jornal said that large quantities of products, mainly foodstuffs, have been recovered and are now in storage at Inhamitanga.

These actions are a response by the people of Cheringoma District to the watchword uttered at the mass meeting held on 3 February, the Day of the Mozambican Heroes, at Inhamitanga under the sponsorship of the director of support and control of Sofala Province.

Some Statements

The newsmen of the Radio Mozambique bureau in Beira interviewed a number of Inhamitanga residents, who told of the acts of vandalism and atrocities committed by the agents of the racist Pretoria regime.

The district commander of the People's Police of Mozambique declared that the attack by the armed bands of the so-called "RNM" began at about 0820 hours on 30 January. The commander was participating in the combat preparation of the militia forces of Inhamitanga, in an area 4 kilometers from the town, when the first shots were heard from the attack.

He and the militiamen at once set out for Vila, via an area known as Dimba, where the population told the militia forces that bandits were lying in ambush awaiting their return. The militia forces thereupon changed the direction of their march.

The district commander of the FPM [People's Police of Mozambique] said that as they were crossing the CETA highway, currently under construction, he first observed smoke coming from the center of the town, indicating that the bandits had already captured all of the positions and were in the process of looting homes and commercial establishments of goods and food.

One local resident told RM that when he heard the first shots he thought it was the militia in a training exercise. When the gunfire continued, however, he left his house and then saw that it was not the militia but bandits of the self-appointed "RNM."

He tried to take refuge in the house but was immediately overtaken by some of the bandits. One of them then demanded his wrist watch and all the money he had on his person. This citizen said they robbed him of a total of 3,750 meticals, a wrist watch and an alarm clock, in addition to other goods and foodstuffs.

Continuing his story, the citizen declared that he fled at the first opportunity, taking with him two young sons ages 6 and 5 years.

There were other stories of cases of genuine savagery perpetrated by the South African bandits, including beatings, rapes, and the destruction of motor vehicles, locomotives and railroad cars. Public buildings were burned, and the civilian population was subjected to a genuine reign of terror.

10992

ISC: 4742/214

MOZAMBIQUE

ITALIAN ASSISTANCE IN AGRICULTURAL STUDIES PLANNED

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 12 Feb 82 p 8

[Text] Representatives of the Italian company Bonifica yesterday delivered to the secretary of state for the Limpopo-Incomati Region the plan for the agricultural, livestock and agro-industrial development of the region that lies between the Sabie, Medio Incomati and Massintonto rivers.

The plan--which was authorized by the Third Congress of the FRELINO Party and classified as high-priority and urgent by the Mozambican Government--provides for the construction of major social and economic infrastructures including the dam at Corumane on the Sabie River.

The consortium "CO.BO.CO."--consisting of the state enterprises Condotte d'Acqua and Bonifica and of CONACO Construzioni, a national construction consortium of the Cooperatives League of Italy--was in charge of drafting the plan.

Condotte d'Acqua and Bonifica are companies of the IRI-ITALSTAT [Industrial Reconstruction Institute-ITALSTAT], which groups together major industrial enterprises of the Italian state sector. They have vast experience in their field, as is attested to by numerous undertakings in many countries.

The consortium CO.BO.CO., which groups together the three nonprivate planning, construction, and financial participation companies, proposes to collaborate in our national development through the medium of integrated programs in sectors that are considered to be high-priority.

CO.BO.CO. is beginning its activity in Mozambique with the plan for agricultural, livestock and agro-industrial development in the region that lies between the Sabie, Medio Incomati and Massintonto rivers. This plan was recently completed and was delivered yesterday to SERLI by high-level officials of the Bonifica company.

These studies and projects are being carried out for the Secretariat of State for the Limpopo-Incomati Region and provide for a series of initiatives in the economic-production sectors and in the sociocultural area that will be mutually integrated.

The planning and implementation of this work constitute still another joint undertaking by the Mozambican state and by the state and cooperative sectors of Italy, whose collaboration has been steadily intensified.

10992

CSC: 4742/214

MOZAMBIQUE

CULTURAL, ARTISTIC ACTIVITIES SUGGESTED FOR FREE TIME

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 8 Feb 82 p 1

[Text] A Mozambican citizen has at his disposal an average of 37 hours per week of free time.

A revolution is not sad, is not drab, is not boring. A revolution is lively, is joyous, is dynamic. This is why the subject of free time should be taken up and discussed at various levels. There is agreement (although far from universal) to the effect that there are few places, and little to do, to fill one's hours of recreation, diversion and leisure.

An expert on this subject (a friend of mine, incidentally) told me of his concern over this matter of free time. He said it is essential to avoid at all cost the attitude--which some people have--that "free time can take a man away from the social strife, the contradictions of the class struggle, his own everyday problems, and his struggle for a better future."

Free time cannot serve as an instrument for alienation, much less as a means for suppressing the creative activities of the workers and thereby channeling "their energies toward the satisfaction of their needs--principally of a material nature--and pursuing objectives that are purely recreational," as this expert put it.

Today, in our country, the exercise of free time is limited to a series of very well-defined activities. Sports--headed by soccer--polarize everyone's attention and are the principal activity of free time. It is, however, sports viewed not as an exercise but as a pastime, although the conditions exist for sports in which everyone could participate but which are neither encouraged nor publicized, largely because of the media's neglect.

There is the cinema, but with the repetitive showing of films which remain month after month on billboard and marquee. There are the variety shows, but in rather limited number and of only passable quality. There are the dances and recreational events, also few in number. And there are the night clubs, where prices are very high and which are beyond the means of a large percentage of the population--and which, to tell the truth, are of little or no value as recreation.

But what does one expect? One cannot sit idly, complaining that there is nothing to do with one's free time and waiting for someone (in this case the state, perhaps) to solve our problems.

At the neighborhood level, it will be necessary to arouse the creative initiative of individual citizens. There are such things as a theater for adults, a children's theater, puppet shows, bazaars, dances, poetry readings, songfests and music festivals. There is an endless variety of ways of filling our free time, provided we exercise our initiative.

Free time is one of the most important factors in the education of the new man.

This is true because, he said, "the influence of a given occupation upon the development of one's personality depends above all else on the content of that occupation and only secondarily on the amount of time spent on it."

The truth is that free time "is more fruitful when it is not simply utilized for entertainment but rather in cultural activities and in scientific, artistic and technological creation."

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SSC: 4742/214

MOZAMBIQUE

BRIEFS

MAPUTO BLACKOUT--The city of Maputo was without electric power for approximately 4 hours yesterday beginning in mid-afternoon. According to an authorized source, the lack of electric power was caused by an interruption in the power supply from South Africa. According to information received from that country, serious damage occurred in the electric power supply system, resulting in a cutoff in supply to the Mozambican capital. As soon as the interruption was reported, technicians from the Mozambique Electric Power Company went to work to get the thermal electric power plant in operation. The lack of electric power during the period of several hours caused various difficulties in the normal life of the city, but this did not adversely affect the economic sectors. Problems were reported in connection with the city's automobile traffic, especially at the intersections, where the absence of traffic patrolmen during the afternoon rush hour was quite obvious. [Text] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 11 Feb 82 p 2] 10992

OJM ADMISSION REORGANIZED--The membership admission brigades of the OJM [Mozambican Youth Organization] in Maputo Province were dissolved at the most recent provincial seminar for readjustment of procedures--which was held last month in Namaacha--according to a report issued by the organization. The report stated that this action was taken because of the poor performance of the brigades, which--among other shortcomings--had been unable to determine who "can be a member of the OJM, in accordance with the nature of our organization." The same source added that in replacement of the brigades a section for the specific purpose of admitting new members was created under the Organizational Department of the OJM in Maputo Province; it is to be headed by the respective official in charge. The seminar also studied the question of how youth should be occupied not only in specific tasks but also in their free time. The participants in the seminar concluded--with respect to the latter aspect--that dances, singing, band concerts, and excursions to places of historical, economic and touristic interest should--among other initiatives--be set forth on a list of priority activities to be drawn up by the OJM secretariats at all levels. [Excerpt] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 12 Feb 82 p 3] 10992

CSO: 4742/214

RESULTS OF MEETING OF COMMAND CADRES NOTED

Niamey LE SAHEL in French 13 Jan 82 p 3

[Excerpt] Command cadres met in a conference in Tahoua on 11-12 January 1982 under the chairmanship of Col Seyni Kountche, president of the Supreme Military Council and chief of state.

Following the important opening speech by the chief of state, the conference heard the reports of prefects on the political, economic and social status of their respective departments, and speeches by the secretary of state for the interior and the principal directors of the Ministry of the Interior.

At the close of the ensuing discussions, 4 operating commissions were established: the Security Commission, Development Company Commission, Administration Commission and Social Commission.

The reports of the various commissions made the following conclusions and recommendations:

Only duly authorized government agents, departmental prefects and district subprefects shall exclusively handle the general supervision of government agents' activities in their respective districts. In this regard, command cadres, regardless of their status or function, are directly subordinate to regional or local administrative authorities.

Prefects and subprefects shall participate in planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluating regional and local development programs.

The budgets of regional organizations shall be managed more strictly and resources shall be used better to increase funds allocated for the investment program to meet the real needs of the population.

The people and cadres shall be better informed and made more aware of the goals of the Development Company, with a view to their conscious and effective participation.

A national debate on the Nigerien school system shall be opened in an effort to obtain solutions which will make it possible for the system to be socially integrated and economically attainable.

The conference praises the efforts made to complete sanitary infrastructures, while hoping that human and material resources will be increased to assure their proper operation.

The conference recommends that greater attention be given to planning, implementing and monitoring hydrological infrastructures programs.

The conference hopes for the timely provision of food for the population and additional livestock feed in areas with shortages.

The conference recommends the effective supervision of marketed grain no later than 28 February 1982.

11915

CSO: 4719/516

PAPER REPORTS ON UPCOMING ELECTIONS

Saint Denis TEMOIGNAGES in French 27 Jan 82 p 1

[Editorial: "Capturing Voters From the Right"]

[Text] Elections will be held 14 and 21 March in 18 of the island's districts. These elections, which will be totally useless and which were called for by the Right, will, nevertheless, be a test of public opinion as a whole. It will not be a test in terms of who gets elected (there is no question of overturning the Right's current majority at this juncture) but of voting shifts between the Left and the Right.

As we have said before, these elections offer the Left a good opportunity to inflict a defeat on the Right. What can also be said even at this point is that the Right is not going to be launching into this battle with a feeling of confidence. It struck a mortal blow to the Right when the president of the republic reaffirmed that Point 58 of the presidential program will indeed be implemented next year. The Right now knows that next year the elections to the unicameral assembly will be held on the basis of proportional representation.

Yesterday's JIR [JOURNAL DE L'ILE DE LA REUNION] informed us that for Debre, Virapouille, Repiquet and Fontaine "the disappointment was real." One can see this also in the fact that so many candidates of the Right are running as "independents" (like Armand Nativel, for example). Right now they are afraid of running on the RPR [Rally for the Republic Party] or UDF [Union for the Defense of the Republic] ticket, because they know they are going to lose votes, and by this means they hope to fool the workers into believing they are "independents."

So the Right will not be marching into battle in high spirits.

This is why conditions are more than opportune for all the forces of the Left, and particularly for the PCR [Communist Party of Reunion], to capture votes from the Right.

Today we have the ammunition with which to convince the workers who have been tricked by the Right. There is the record of increases in social service by the government 6 months ago; there is the beginning of pluralism in the media on FR3 [France Region 3]; again, there is the reaffirmation by the president of the republic that there "will be no personnel reductions"; and, finally, there is the growing perception that the future of Reunion belongs to the Left, with the PCR.

The task of the Left, then, in this electoral campaign, is not to convince the workers who already support the Left, who already vote communist or socialist. It is rather a question of making contact with every worker who was fooled by the Right. We must contact those who are still subject to pressure, to blackmail.... We must go see them, give them the necessary explanations, and convince them that the future of Reunion belongs to the Left and its most stalwart defender: the Communist Party of Reunion.

Capturing votes from the Right will create the conditions for its total defeat next year. It is essential that the district elections result in even greater confidence among the workers, the farmers, the unemployed, women and the young people of our country that in 1983 the Right will be beaten and the Left come to power.

9516

CSO: 4719/581

FJAR ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON DEVELOPMENT, ELECTIONS

Saint Denis TEMOIGNAGES in French 27 Jan 82 p 12

[Communique by the Political Bureau of the FJAR [Autonomist Youth Front of Reunion]]

[Text] The difficult predicament in which Reunionese youths finds itself today is the result of the colonial policy pursued by the government in our country for more than 20 years. Those who have been in power and are still in power have led our country's economy to disaster. The unemployment which has afflicted the country in the past has once again spread to the great majority of young people, who are having problems of every kind day after day.

Today it is necessary to have done with this situation. We must expand all the productive activities in our country in order to resolve this crucial problem: unemployment. It is up to the Left to take charge of this country's destiny in order to complete the task of development, for in 20 years of power the Right showed us its total incompetence and total irresponsibility.

So we should fight the Right in the upcoming elections. To do that, the leftist forces in the country must unite. All progressive forces should unite to fight against the forces of reaction.

We should have this unity in time for the upcoming district elections. And the only way to achieve this unity is by a clear and unambiguous commitment to automatic, reciprocal and supportive withdrawal in favor of whichever leftist candidate has the most votes in the first round.

At this time, only the Communist Party of Reunion [PCR] has made its position known. The Autonomist Youth Front of Reunion declares its support for unity, and our position fully endorses that of the PCR.

All the forces of the Left must unite to inflict a defeat on the Right. In the current situation, they have an immense responsibility, for the development of the country and the future of the workers, the growers, the women and the youth depends entirely on unity.

9516

CSO: 4719/581

NEW PDS DEPUTY RESIGNS FROM PARTY

Dakar LE SOLEIL in French 18 Jan 82 p 3

[Article by Moustapha Mbodj]

[Excerpt] The Senegalese Democratic Party's [PDS] intention to adopt a tougher policy, recently announced by Mr Abdoulaye Wade, is still causing a stir within the party, since such a toughening of policy, in conjunction with recent events, could perhaps result in Mr Wade's extended absence. Thus following the expulsion last week of two National Assembly deputies, the so-called "puritanical" Mr Amadou Fall and Mrs Fatou Kane for "collusion with the enemy and divisive maneuvers," which was followed shortly afterwards by the resignation of Mr Doudou Ndoeye, the national secretary for relations with internal organs, it is a Casamance deputy, Mr Famara Mane, who has just resigned, challenging the "arbitrary and antidemocratic measures" taken against national leaders who demanded explanations concerning the delegation of party members sent to Libya and the "personal actions of the PDS general secretary, Mr Abdoulaye Wade."

Whatever the case, the resignation of Deputy Mane, perhaps more than the others, is a significant loss for this party 1 year away from parliamentary and presidential elections.

It may be recalled that in 1978 he won a clear victory in his electoral district and was very influential in establishing the principal legal opposition party at that time in the south. Thus prior to his resignation, Mr Famara Mane was a member of the PDS National Secretariat and general secretary of the PDS Regional Assembly in Casamance. Mr Mane, who speaks of the "circumstantial leadership of the PDS" in his letter, definitely had a different concept of the internal democracy which should govern the life of a democratic party: "In solidarity with all sincere party members who care about Senegal's higher interests, I have decided to terminate all our political activities within this party, which has become a financial enterprise." However, Mr Mane stated in his press release: "I consider myself committed to those patriots who have resolved to defend just causes and appeal to all party members to bar the way for deception and demagoguery."

Mr Famara Mane is thus the second deputy to resign from the political body led by Mr Abdoulaye Wade within the space of approximately 10 days and the seventh to do so since the 1978 parliamentary elections, following which the PDS held 18 seats in the National Assembly. His resignation reduces the number of PDS deputies in

the National Assembly to nine. How many PDS deputies will remain by the end of this legislature? This is a matter which Senegalese political circles are following with interest. As for the adoption of a tougher policy, which Mr Wade recommends, according to the PS [Socialist Party] general secretary this could mean that his party may not submit any candidates in the upcoming elections, even though this may be necessary. "We no longer wish to be the party brought out to endorse Senegalese democracy."

11915

CSO: 4719/516

COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH CUBA SIGNED

Victoria NATION in French 12 Feb 82 pp 1, 2

[Text] An agreement on cooperation between the Seychelles and Cuba was signed yesterday [11 February] at National House by Maxime Ferrari, minister of planning and development, and Roberto Valdes Munoz, Cuban ambassador.

The agreement was signed in the presence of the principal secretaries from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Agriculture, Labor, Social Security, from the central administration of the government, and in the presence of the deputy secretary general for education, as well as before high officials of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and of Planning and Development.

It covers cooperative relations between the two countries in the area of public health, agriculture, planning, education, sports, labor, and social security, as well as economic and commercial relations between the two republics.

Cooperative Will

Speaking at the close of the signature ceremony Minister Ferrari congratulated both countries on the fortunate outcome of the consultations between the Cuban delegation and the representatives of most of the ministerial departments. This agreement demonstrates, he noted, the cooperative will, fraternity, and friendship between our two peoples and constitutes a new advance over what was achieved in the past. Underlining the "volume of things to do together," the minister of planning and development, at the end of his short speech, expressed a wish for the full success "of the implementation of this will to work together in a revolutionary spirit so that our two countries can advance with more justice, more brotherhood, and more friendship."

For a Better Life

Speaking in turn, the Cuban ambassador to the Seychelles noted great satisfaction with the conclusions which the two delegations had reached, symbolizing the desire of two countries to work together for a better life. He underlined the frank, sincere, brotherly, and open character of cooperation between the Cuban people and those of Seychelles. This agreement, he declared, expresses in the first place an initial step in the development of bilateral cooperation in different areas. Consequently, in the future we think that we can deepen this collaboration even further, Ambassador Valdes said at the end of his speech.

Having arrived in the Seychelles last Sunday [7 February], the Cuban delegation, led by Ricardo Guerrera Blanco, chief of the African Department in the Cuban State Commission for Cooperation, is to leave the Seychelles today [12 February].

PRESIDENT SIAD SPEAKS ON JUSTICE DAY

Mogadishu HEEGAN in English 19 Feb 82 p 1

[Text]

Mogadishu, Thursday — The General Secretary of the SRSP, President of the SDR Jaalle Mohamed Siad Barre has earlier this week attended a ceremony marking Somalia's Justice Day.

Speaking to the staff and employees of the Justice and Religious Affairs Ministry and security courts, the President said that the proper administration of Justice can only be assured when the public are awakened to its benefits.

«Justice can always take its right course when proper investigations begin right from the start with the honest assistance of the public», he said.

The President pointed out that Justice is rooted in and interpreted in accordance with Somali traditions and way of life and cannot be based on imported judicial systems.

Speaking on international

justice, Jaalle Siad said that it was full of well-formulated but not properly practised laws.

The President commended the Supreme Court and the Ministry of Justice and Religious Affairs in General for efficiently executing justice in the country and urged them to redouble their efforts towards that end.

Earlier, the Minister of Justice and Religious Affairs, Jaalle Ahmed Shire Mohamoud, recounted the steps of Judicial development in the country.

The ceremony, which was held at the premises of the Supreme Court here, was also attended by the Second Vice President Major General Hussein Kulmie Afrah, members from the SRSP's Central Committee and the people's Assembly as well as other party and government officials.

New Court President

Meanwhile, the General Secretary of the SRSP, President of the SDR, Jaalle Mohamed Siad Barre, received at his office here Colonel Osman Maie Ma'allim who was sworn in there for the post of President of the Armed Forces' High Court.

Jaalle Siad clearly outlined the great importance of the proper execution of Justice for the enhancement of national prestige and social development.

President Siad expressed his best wishes for the success of the new court President in the fulfilment of his weighty duties.

Speaking at the occasion,

CSO: 4700/886

PRESIDENT SIAD RECEIVES FRENCH ENVOY

Mogadishu HEEGAN in English 12 Feb 82 p 1

[Text]

MOGADISHU, Thursday — The General Secretary of the SRSP, President of the SDR, Jaalle Mohamed Siad Barre on Tuesday night received at his residence here the French Presidential Counsellor on African Affairs, Mr. Guy Penne, who arrived here last Monday night on an official visit to Somalia.

During their meeting, Jaalle Siad and the French official discussed bilateral relations and mutual cooperation as well as international issues of common interests to both countries.

Mr. Penne also conveyed to President Siad a personal message from President Francois Mitterrand.

Jaalle Siad requested Mr. Penne to convey his greetings and best wishes to President Mitterrand,

the government and people of France.

Earlier on the day, Mr. Penne met with Somali Minister for Foreign Affairs, Jaalle Abdurahman Jama Barre, with whom he reviewed bilateral relations and current major international issues, including the problem of the Horn of Africa.

Also, the French official had separate meetings with Somali Ministers of Information, and Planning, Jaalle Mohamed Aden Sheikh and Jaalle Ahmed Habib Hammed.

Their discussions focused on Franco-Somali relations and cooperation.

Mr. Guy Penne expressed the hope that his visit to Somalia would contribute to the promotion of bilateral relations.

Meanwhile, on Wednesday the Chairman of the National Commission for Refugees, Jaalle Abdi Mohamed Tarrah, received 13 GLR-160 Renault trucks presented by the French government to alleviate the transport problem in the refugee camps.

The trucks were handed over to Jaalle Tarrah by Mr. Guy Penne.

Speaking at the handing-over ceremony, Mr. Penne said the French people were deeply moved by the images of distress in the refugee camps in Somalia and expressed his confidence that the trucks would contribute to the alleviation of this distress.

«France's concern for the refugees in the camps in Somalia has expressed itself, beyond her action in the EEC, through food-aid, medicine-supplies, air-transport (at the time of the floods in May 1981) and teams of medical volunteers or agricultural volunteers,» he said.

Mr. Penne assured

Jaalle Tarrah that he would transmit to French President, Francois Mitterrand, what he called «the strong impressions» he felt when seeing Somalia confronted with this drastic situation.

Mr. Penne stated that the French Minister for Planning and Co-operation will visit Somalia in the near future to continue the talks that he had with the Somali government.

Speaking to reporters just before departure he added that his discussions with Somali government officials revolved round the theme of co-operation between France and Somalia.

Mr. Penne disclosed that he conveyed to the Somali President a message from President Francois Mitterrand along with an invitation for President Siad to visit France.

Finally, Mr. Penne who concluded a 3-day visit to Somalia expressed his thanks to the government and people of Somalia for the warm welcome accorded him.

INFORMATION MINISTER LEAVES FOR KUWAIT

Mogadishu HEEGAN in English 19 Feb 82 p 2

[Excerpt]

Mogadishu, Thursday — A delegation led by Minister of Information and National Guidance, Jaalle Mohamed Adam Sheikh, left here Tuesday for Kuwait to attend the meeting of the Gulf countries' ministers of Information and Culture which is due to begin there next week.

In an interview given to reporters before his departure from the airport here, Jaalle Mohamed said that the meeting will centre on the increasing of television services and the co-ordination of T. V. programmes in the Gulf countries.

The Minister added that during his stay in Kuwait,

he intends to discuss with the officials of the Arab Broadcasting and T. V. Union the enhancement of the co-operation relations and the exchange of ideas and experiences that exist between the information institutions of Kuwait and Somalia.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by the Chairman of the SRSP Bureau for party Central Committee Affairs, Jaalle Abdulkadir Mao Omer, the Minister of Industry, Jaalle Ali Khalif Galaydh, the assistant Ministers of Health and Information and other senior government and Party officials.

CSO: 4700/886

MINISTER RETURNS FROM PAN-ARAB MEETING

Mogadishu HEEGAN in English 19 Feb 82 p 2

[Excerpts]

Mogadishu, Thursday — The First Vice-Chairman of the People's Assembly Jaalle Omer Arteh Ghalib and members of his delegation returned here on Monday after attending the Pan-Arab parliamentary Union meeting held recently in Kuwait.

Jaalle Arteh told SONNA at the airport that the annual meeting discussed ways of promoting Arab Unity and cooperation as well as other topics related to Arab causes.

It also discussed ways of forging closer links among Arab Parliaments and safeguarding Arab interests, he said, adding that mutual understanding was reached on these matters.

After Kuwait meeting, Jaalle Arteh visited Qatar and the United Arab Emirates where he discussed bilateral relations and cooperation. In both countries Jaalle Arteh also had meetings with Somali communities.

Welcoming the delegation at the airport were: Jaalle colonel Ahmed Hassan Musa, a member of the SRC's economic financial and trade committee, Jaalle Jama Mohamed Ghalib, Minister of Local Governments and Rural Development, Jaalle Mohamed Burale Ismail, second Vice-Chairman of the People's Assembly, and other government and parliamentary officials.

CSO: 4700/886

DEFENSE MINISTRY DENOUNCES SOVIET, ETHIOPIAN PROPAGANDA

Mogadishu HEEGAN in English 19 Feb 82 p 1

[Text]

Mogadishu, Thursday —
A spokesman for the Ministry of Defence has earlier this week categorically denied as baseless lies reports put out from Addis Ababa and Moscow radios alleging that fighting was going within the Somali National Army.

«These unfounded reports were also picked up by an irresponsible Reuters correspondent based in Nairobi who quoted Radio Addis Ababa which is notorious for its fabrications rooted in colonialism», the spokesman said.

The spokesman emphatically stated that there has never been any fighting within the Somali army but

that, on the contrary, the valiant Somali armed forces and people are united more than ever in their preparedness for the defence of their sovereignty and independence.

«The purpose of this conspiratorial propaganda disseminated by the Russians and the Abyssinians is to mislead world public opinion and subvert the stability of the Somali Democratic Republic».

«The Addis Ababa and Moscow Radios have become well-known for their mendacious broadcasts aimed at promoting the goals of colonialism and hegemonism», the spokesman noted.

CSO: 4700/886

ARAB LEAGUE CHIEF CONCLUDES VISIT TO SOMALIA

Mogadishu HEEGAN in English 12 Feb 82 p 2

[Text]

Mogadishu, Thursday — The Director General of the Arab League Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (ALESCO), Dr. Muhied-din Saber, left here last Sunday after winding up an official visit to Somalia during which he discussed with concerned Somali officials ways and means of strengthening the on-going Arabization Programme in Somalia.

Speaking to SONNA before his departure, Dr. Saber expressed satisfaction at his visit which, he said, has produced fruitful results.

The ALESCO chief said his visit to Somalia was aimed at assessing ways and means by which the Arab League and its affiliated agencies could assist Somalia in its campaign of Arabization and the revival of Arabic Culture and language.

Earlier, the ALESCO agreed with the Somali Government to set up an urgent strategy pertaining to the intensification of Arabic in Somalia as well as preparing places and equipments for learning the Arabic language and culture.

CSO: 4700/886

NAVY CELEBRATES ANNIVERSARY OF FOUNDING

Mogadishu HEEGAN in English 12 Feb 82 p 2

[Text]

Mogadishu, Thursday — A ceremony marking the 17th anniversary of the founding of the Somali Marine Force was held on Tuesday night at the Navy's headquarters here.

In a speech at the ceremony which was attended by members from the SRC, the Party's Central Committee, and the People's National Assembly, as well as senior Army officers and other distinguished guests, the SDR Assistant Minister of Defence, Major General Omar Haji Mohamed, congratulated the officers, the non-commissioned officers and sailors as well as their families on this occasion, expressing his best wishes for their progress and prosperity.

Jaalle Omer underlined the heavy duties awaiting the marine force to

fulfil and accomplish its role towards the national development in political, economic, social and defence and security fields. He called on the Somali army members to carry out their obligations with honesty and to sacrifice their precious lives for the defence of the motherland.

«Since our coastline is very long and is rich with marine resources which are to be defended against any hostile forces, the Ministry of Defence intends to increase the power of the navy in terms of equipment and professional knowledge,» the Assistant Minister declared.

Earlier, the Commandant of the Somali Marine Force, Admiral Mohamed Omer Osman, delivered a report during which he outlined the

history of the Somali Navy and its role in the national development efforts.

The commandant touched on the numerous problems the navy encountered under the corrupt regimes and the plans set up by the Revolution to speed up its development both in administration and knowledge to defend the country's 3000-km-long coast.

Jaalle Mohamed Omer declared that the Somali Navy is capable of detecting any sea manoeuvres, adding that he had full confidence in the Marine force which, he said, possesses both the technology and equipment to repulse any hostile force infringing upon the sovereignty and independence of the nation.

ENERGY, ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SEMINAR CLOSSES

Mogadishu HEEGAN in English 19 Feb 82 pp 1, 6

[Text]

Mogadishu, Thursday — The Minister for Livestock Forestry and Range, Jaalle Mohamed Ali Nur closed on Wednesday a seminar on Energy and Environmental Management Needs in Somalia.

The three-day seminar has been discussing energy and environmental needs and considering ways and means of finding appropriate solutions that are adaptable to local conditions in the country.

The meeting which was broken up into separate research and discussion groups had come up with numerous final recommendations aimed at finding a practical solution for environmental and energy problems.

In his closing speech, Jaalle Nur highlighted the importance of the seminar which, he said, would set a good basis for tackling energy crisis, soil erosion and desertification.

The Minister who pointed

out the numerous energy problems facing Somalia and almost all developing countries, said that the government has set up a national level committee to study ways of defusing these problems or at least diminishing their acuteness. He said that earlier experiments made to that effect have produced encouraging results.

Noting that energy could not be separated from other factors such as the raw materials, technical know-how and finance, Jaalle Nur stressed the need to accelerate the mutual understanding and exchange between developed and developing nations in utilization of new energy sources including that of the sun, wind, dung and water.

"We in Somalia, like many others in the developing world, wish to solve these problems by pursuing a policy of national self re-

liance through the framework of global cooperation and exchanges based on fairness and equity," he declared.

The seminar is jointly sponsored by the faculty of Engineering of the Somali University, Ministry of Higher Education and Culture in collaboration with the Program for International Development, Clark University and Volunteers in Technical Assistance. Supporting organizations have included the Somali Research Unit or Emergencies and Rural Development, Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, the Ministry of Livestock, Forestry and Range, the Ministry of Planning, the Ministry of Water and Mineral Resources, the Somali Studies International Association, the United States Agency for International Development and its Program for Environmental Training and Management in Africa (ETMA).

PRESENTATIONS

Dr. R. Ford, Clark University, Dr. S. Waldron, Cortland State University compared price rises in wood and charcoal and noted that, over the last ten years, the increase in woodfuel has been greater than the rise in the price of petroleum. They

also reported that women in refugee camps two years ago spent 1 hour a day gathering fuelwood. In 1982 some spent up to 9 hours a day.

Mr. Awaljah, Director of the Northern Rangelands Projects, NRA, discussed the role of nomads in the energy/environment interface. Defending nomadic lifestyles, he argued that nomads do not cut trees or destroy rangelands. Instead they protect them as they are the basic resources to carry out their pastoral livelihoods. The Government is now working with nomads to improve the range and waterpoints, in order to increase livestock production while conserving the environment.

Dr. M. A. Deria (Mineral Resources and Water Development) and A. Raghe (SRUERD) Presented findings of their research on household energy consumption in Mogadishu. In recent years, prices have jumped from 15 shillings in 1975 to 45 shillings per 100 kilo bag and the distances of transportation increased to about 300 km from Mogadishu.

Presentation on individual renewable energy technologies followed. S. Hirsch (VITA), H. Cauley (VITA) and P. Hassrich (UNICEF) described experiences with

improving the efficiency of cooking stoves. Through more effective designs, efficiency can be increased from 10% to 50%. Better efficiency can reduce wood and charcoal consumption by half.

Prof. L. Sugier (UNHCR) explained how use of solar cookers could reduce fuelwood costs to zero. Describing experiments in Beled Weyn, he told how women were cooking rice, meat, and vegetables with sun's rays. Further, hospitals and clinics were now able to sterilise water using only the sun's rays.

Oxfam representative Rob

Fraser discussed their success with solar powered water pumps in refugee camps in the Hargeisa region. Though the pumps cost 4 times as much as diesel pumps, they consume no petroleum so the long run operating cost is less than a diesel pump. He estimated that in two years, the solar pump would pay for itself through reduced operating costs.

A.B.H. (National University) Peter Hayes (Energy Development Incorporated), and Western Fisher (USAID) reviewed the national energy situation and found that the largest single energy use in the country is household cooking.

CSO: 4700/886

CALL FOR EXPANSION OF MASS MEDIA

Mogadishu HEEGAN in English 12 Feb 82 p 5

[Article by Mohamed Robleh Noor in column "Friday Notebook": "Digesting the Mass Media"]

[Text]

The Somali Mass Media personnel along with the whole nation celebrated recently the ninth revolutionary anniversary of the Somali Mass Media Day. And as we experienced t h a t important occasion, we felt the need to review the role of the Somali mass media as well as the setbacks that hinder its activities.

«The Information department should be provided with the necessary manpower and equipment to enable it to properly serve the interest of the nation», was one of the resolutions issued by the recent SRSP Committee Fourth Ordinary Session.

Visits of inspection

to the headquarters of the Ministry of Information and National Guidance as well as its autonomous agencies have been carried out by the President and other SRC members. There is no doubt that the aim of such visits is in line with the fact that lack of effective communication media substantial development cannot be attained in economic, political, and social affairs.

The main objectives behind our communication media is to create social consciousness among the masses in order to make them aware of the importance of work; it is to utilize manpower for national development and progress. It is the information men who

are to assess and evaluate people's participation in social construction, and to create competition among those engaged in production so as to promote output.

On the double effects of the mass-media, an Egyptian writer and lecturer on mass media an information, Ahmed Taher, once told a group of African Journalists that the mass-media as they come to the emerging Third World countries, are regarded by some to be «the great hope for democracy,» while others consider the press, radio and television to be «insidious devices that

would capture and enslave helpless masses.» However, it is for the sake of the former of these two opposing viewpoints that makes incumbent upon us all the time to formulate a new and ambitious plan for improving and expanding our business of journalism.

We have to bring great upswing in this field, for communication is a basic element in the process of change and progress. The improvement of technical facilities should be given priority in order to ensure a wider and more efficient service.

CSO: 4700/886

REUTERS IS UPBRAIDED FOR SWALLOWING ETHIOPIAN PROPAGANDA

Mogadishu HEEGAN in English 19 Feb 82 p 2

[Editorial: "Lies Are Lies"]

[Text]

This week has again seen a typical example of interference in the internal affairs of one country by another when both Radio Moscow and Radio Addis Abeba broadcast false news about the SDR, alleging that its armed forces had clashed. What they wanted to imply in so many words is that it was on the verge of ruin. However, no one was alarmed here or outside, and they were disappointed.

Propaganda from these two Radio stations are not something for any serious student who has been familiar with developments here in the Horn of Africa, particularly in the arena of politics; it is a region that has attracted much attention from everywhere by virtue of its being trouble-spot of unprecedented magnitude. But while such propaganda has been mainly in the form of «Commentaries» by «experts» in the past, at present it has been treated as «news». This may make no difference to the casual observer, but to those who are familiar with the art of propaganda this shift is significant. It means that having failed in their «commentaries», Russia and Abyssinia are trying another avenue to achieve their goal.

What we want to say to these terrible lies has already been said in the statement issued by the Ministry of Defence of this coun-

try. What we want to point out here, however, is that it is a pity that Reuters fell for the trap and spread the «news». This is understandable for newsmen are always in a hurry to get ahead of their rivals and this is the essence of news. But a good journalist should always keep in mind the background of the news he is handling and therefore the sources.

In this instance how far can Abyssinia and Russia be reliable, for example? Shouldn't Reuters learn from its fiasco?

CSO: 4700/886

MALAN DISCUSSES INCREASE IN TERRORIST ACTIVITY

Capetown DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 23 Feb 82 p 8

[Report: "Attacks Against South Africa Have Increased 200 Percent."]

[Text] Johannesburg--Incidents of terrorism in South Africa increased by almost 200 percent in the first half of last year compared to the previous 6 months according to General Magnus Malan, Minister of Defense, in Alberton yesterday when he opened the 15th national congress of the South African National Institute for Emergency Services.

General Malan said that the government last year "approached its goal to a considerable degree" with its political, economic and social initiatives.

"Unfortunately it is one of the big contradictions of the world and time we live in that the greater the successes we achieve, the more we are attacked. The stability we create runs counter to the ambitions of Soviet imperialism and expansionism in Southern Africa.

"Thus the onslaught on South Africa will worsen through the use of instruments such as terrorism, other substitute forces, and a sustained campaign of psychological warfare. The reality of this renewed onslaught is on our doorstep," said General Malan.

Continued

"This evil threat to our country demands a carefully planned counter strategy and the generation of new military initiatives. Just as in the economy, where we use our mineral resources and reserves for the promotion of the nation's progress, it is also important in the military context to utilize our labor force to the greatest advantage."

General Malan said that the security and standard of living of South Africa which Afrikaners hold so dear require a greater degree of sacrifice and a greater devotion of all its citizens to insure that the burden of defense is shared fairly by

Lengthen

"Unfortunately, existing legislation and voluntary commitments have not created the necessary counter balance to insure our survival. Thus it is up to our legislators to establish new measures to expand the military service and place a more balanced burden on all citizens.

"At this point in time, however, it would not be fair to increase the period of initial military service, but instead to make an appeal to the citizen militia, the commandos and the reservists to make a greater contribution to our national effort," General Malan said. (SAPA)

8700

CSO: 4701/33

SOUTH AFRICA

NP CONTROVERSY ON ROLE OF COLOREDS

Treurnicht Objects to NP Standpoint

Capetown DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 22 Feb 82 pp 1-2

[Political Report: Treurnicht Wants Clarification of NP (National Party) Policy.]

[Text] Dr Andries Treurnicht, Transvaal leader of the National Party, yesterday once again urged a stricter qualification of the government's policy on a new constitutional dispensation for whites, coloreds and Asians.

This follows newspaper reports about a threatening argument in the inner circle of the National Party after Dr Treurnicht recently objected to a view expressed in NAT 80's, the official informative publication of the National Party.

In an editorial, NAT 80's referred to the new constitutional dispensation being planned and said it is only logical that no more than one government can exist in one country.

When asked about it, Dr Treurnicht said yesterday: "The wording of NAT 80's touches one of the most sensitive nerves in our policy and such a standpoint will have to be very strictly qualified." Dr Treurnicht did not want to go into the matter any further.

Other NP spokesmen said that they were surprised about Dr Treurnicht's objection to the standpoint in NAT 80's, since the matter had been dealt with long ago in the NP inner circle.

DIE BURGER learned that the editorial had been approved for publication by a senior Minister, Dr Piet Koornhof [Minister of Cooperation and Development] in his capacity as chairman of the NP's Federal Information Service.

The editorial was written by Dr Jan Grobler, member of parliament from Brits and chief information official of the NP. In it, he mentioned a series of realities which this current generation will have to accept in order to be able to survive. Among them are:

--that whites, Coloreds and Indians should inhabit a geographical area in South Africa within which individual living areas are provided for;

--that it is only logical that no more than one government can exist in the same country;

--that it is essential for population groups which inhabit the same country to participate in the decisionmaking processes of that country.

The editorial also said: "The carrying out of the aforementioned aspects is based on the cooperation and friendly disposition of every citizen in and around South Africa. The process is consultation on an equal basis."

It has been learned that Dr Treurnicht raised objections about 10 days ago to that position on government. According to him this could have far-reaching implications. He is also said to have feared that this could possibly be read to mean there would be only a mixed government in the future.

The matter initiated considerable discussion among NP members of parliament. Last week there were strong rumors that one of Dr Treurnicht's supporters wanted to bring up the question at the weekly NP caucus meeting, but apparently that did not come about.

In NP circles it is pointed out that the editorial was written after the Prime Minister, Mr P.W. Botha, had taken a strong position in the No-confidence debate on Coloreds. He committed himself to peace between Coloreds and whites, and he said that a separate sovereign government for Coloreds could not be created. He added that he was not pleading for a unitary state, but that he was expanding on the charge to the presidential council to find a co-existence for Coloreds and Asians.

Botha Defends NP Standpoint

Capetown DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 23 Feb 82 pp 1-2

[Political Report: "Treurnicht Objection; Prime Minister Takes Stand."]

[Text] The Prime Minister, Mr P.W. Botha, yesterday took a firm stand with respect to the disturbances in connection with the constitutional policy of the National Party in which the Transvaal leader of the party, Dr Andries Treurnicht, and the chief information official of that party, Dr Jan Grobler, are involved.

From a statement in which he once again spelled out the policy of the National Party on that matter, and from an interjection in the Small Budget Debate in the House of Assembly, it appears that the prime minister has put Dr Grobler in the right on that question.

The dispute revolves around a view which Dr Grobler had expressed in an editorial in NAT 80's in his capacity as editor of that publication. Amongst other things, he wrote that it is only logical that in one country there can be only one government. Dr Treurnicht objected to that position and said that this requires "careful qualification" since it touches one of the most sensitive nerves in our policy."

In an interesting statement to DIE BURGER, the prime minister yesterday said, amongst other things, that there can be only one central government authority in a country, although there can be various government instruments. He also took a clear stand on sharing of power and said that for the NP the concept of consultation and shared responsibility is a form of healthy sharing of power.

Treurnicht

He also made it known that he himself will give guidance on the constitutional proposals of the Presidential Council to every provincial congress of the National Party. If the recommendations of the Presidential Council are received in good time, it could be done this year already.

In the Small Budget debate in the House of Assembly, Mr Harry Schwarz, chief spokesman on the finances of the PFP [Progressive Federal Party] asked the prime minister if he agreed with the editorial in NAT 80's.

Mr Botha answered: "Of course. I clearly stated that in the no-confidence debate."

Dr Treurnicht, who yesterday was involved in deep conversations with quite a number of colleagues, told DIE BURGER, when asked, that he did not have any comment on the prime minister's statement.

Earlier in the day Dr Grobler from Brits, where he is involved in matters of his electoral department, told DIE BURGER he didn't think it was good practice to enter into a public debate with a minister when there are differences of emphasis on policy. He thinks such a matter can be settled amicably.

"As far as I am concerned, the editorial is entirely within party policy, and I stand by it," he said. He added that the editorial has been approved for publication by senior colleagues to whom he is responsible.

In political circles one expects the prime minister's statement to elicit profound discussion. Several senior NP members told DIE BURGER that they hope the air is cleared now, after the statement of the chief leader.

Mr Botha's statement reads as follows: "During the no-confidence debate, I once again positively spoke against a system of one man, one vote under the Westminster system. I also pointed out that it is not possible to establish separate instruments for whites and Coloreds in the country without there being joint consultation on the first, second and third levels of government.

"I also stated that self-determination of the whites continues to be the point of departure for the government, but at the same time I said that self-determination is a relative term, not an absolute one.

"In my view too many phantoms are being evoked on the concept of 'sharing power.' The Progressive Federal Party and we don't think in the same terms on the term 'sharing power.' The members of that party strive for a unitary state and we do not."

"But for us the concept of consultation and shared responsibility is indeed a healthy form of sharing power, without abusing the concept of self-determination. Thus we prefer the term shared responsibility."

Only One

"I pointed out that joint services will have to be provided for white and Colored population groups, which will require joint consultation and decisionmaking.

"Further I stated that a separate sovereign parliament for Coloreds can not be created. There can be only one central government authority in the country, although there can be various government instruments. This concept was also embedded in the 1977 proposals of the National Party. Therefore, there was clarity already then on an executive State President and a joint Council of Cabinets under the State President's chairmanship.

"It must be obvious that treasury control and financial control ultimately can rest upon only one central authority.

"With respect to the much-discussed article of the chief information officer of the NP, I should like to point out that it must be read in the spirit of my exposition in parliament. The chief information officer consults with me regularly.

"We are awaiting the proposals of the Presidential Council on a future constitutional dispensation. When those proposals are made, the government and the NP will have a meaningful consultation on that.

"In connection with those proposals, I am planning to take the leadership myself at each congress of our party in various provinces. I have already indicated that a referendum on that is also a strong possibility," reads the statement.

Responding to a question, Mr Botha said that it is possible that the constitutional proposals will be submitted to the NP congresses already this year.

8700

CS0: 4701/33

SOUTH AFRICA

BRIEFS

FIRST INDIAN POLICE OFFICER--Durban--A Durban resident became the first Indian to receive the rank of officer in the reserves of the South African Police. Mr Dhanapalan Munien (40), an inspector in the city engineering office of Durban was informed this past weekend that he had been promoted to the rank of lieutenant. Mr Munien said he had been a police reservist for the past 19 years. "In 1968 I was promoted to sergeant and in 1976 to adjutant." He said he was very happy that he was the first Indian police reservist to receive the rank of officer. Mr Munien works mainly in Chatsworth, where he lives. (SAPA) [Text] [Capetown DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 23 Feb 8 p 4] 8700

CSO: 4701/33

KINSHASA-KISANGANI BOAT TRIP DESCRIBED

Dakar AFRICA in French No 138, Feb 82 pp 42-44

[Article by Francois Misser: "Zaire: A Cruise on the River of Paradoxes"]

[Text] In mid-October 1981, the Rivers of Africa expedition boarded the Kingabwa, an imposing craft which pushes a convoy of ONATRA [National Transportation Office] barges up the river from Kinshasa to Kisangani.

As far as Kwamouth--which lies at the mouth of the Kasai--we traveled on the river part of the "national route." From Shaba to the port of Ilebo on the Kasai, valuable copper, cobalt and cassiterite are moved along this route by rail to the rivers. They travel by river to Kinshasa; from there they must be moved again by rail to the port of Matadi, downstream from the cataracts, which is accessible to freight ships that transport them on the high seas.

We are on the Pool about 40 kilometers from Kinshasa: an inland sea 36 kilometers long formed by the Congo. A storm is brewing over the river.

But it is not the storm that has kept us immobile for 2 hours off the N'Sele model farm, whose tower sports the torch of the revolution and the emblem of the NPR [Popular Movement of the Revolution], Zaire's only party. Traffic has come to a halt on the river for another reason.

On the bridge of the Kingabwa the commanding supervisor--a Belgian whom--like many of his peers--the IMF requires the Government of Zaire to hire in an attempt to control the constant fraud plaguing the country--is no more reassuring than the Zairian captain.

A few yards away from us, the Kamanyola goes by--a superb yacht more than 50 meters long. On the prow the oriflamme and a red nautical flag marked with a golden leopard flutter in the breeze, indicating that Mobutu Sese Seko Kuku Ngbendu Wa Za Benga is on board. The Guide's helicopter rests on the deck of the stern.

This fear is not surprising. Ever since our arrival in Zaire on 9 October, almost everyone we have met--expatriates cooperating with the present regime,

¹ Ancient royal standard of France. -Tr.

"mwana-mam'boka", (children of the country), white Belgians and French people and many Zairians have been predicting a difficult autumn for the patriarch of Zaire, about whom there are rumors which would delight Gabriel Garcia Marquez, a master in the taunting of foundering dictators.

Sentences filtering in from outside the country have already been handed down, and little by little the people are becoming aware of them. All Kinois knows the rumor that two of the symbols of the citizen-president's omnipotence--his leopard skin cap and his staff--have been taken from him by members of his entourage. His ministers have just been reshuffled. The commander's statue is wobbling on its pedestal. The people laugh secretly, but they also tremble.

Everyone kopes that the MPR's torch will gradually go out without setting the plains on fire, but there is widespread discontent. The purchasing power of the country's currency is 1/10 what it was 10 years ago, before the advent of the present regime. The price of copper has collapsed, and it has become difficult to market it through unstable Angola. Clandestine trade in diamonds, minerals and coffee is on the increase due to the need to avoid the draconian policies of the Bank of Zaire, which punishes exporters by immobilizing foreign exchange that could be used productively. As many businessmen working in Zaire admit, illicit traffic in foreign exchange has become the country's main activity. Grievances pile up; even if formerly tenacious resentments have been forgotten, there is still hostility--and sharp criticism from artists--due to the demonetization of 1979 and the fact that many people were sent back with suitcases full of worthless currency.

The latest source of discontent among the people is the conscription of young students, who are often recruited to cover up the fact that families and governmental institutions are unable to meet their needs in terms of equipment and, especially, food. This is also an expedient way of hiding the juvenile delinquency which is rampant in the towns.

So we expected a great deal of "matatas" (trouble, fuss, loud talk), but it didn't materialize. Our trip across Zaire was facilitated by the authorities as never before. One more paradox? At any rate we had to take note of the fact.

We continued up the river at a speed of about 5 kilometers/hour, traveling on almost a hectare of rusted sheet metal, cement, beer containers (the variety of brands of dark and light beer found in Zaire suggests that this is perhaps the Belgain colonizers best legacy), rice, some tractors. A brand new ferry--a gift from the Guide to the region of upper Zaire--is secured to the convoy. Many of the barges are riding high; they will be loaded with grain, produce, or cattle for the return trip from Kinshasa with the Kingabwa.

The commander is in a rage. The convoy is delayed. The crew, in much less of a hurry, has its reasons for making a lot of stops. These underpaid sailors (whose monthly wage is 200 zaires, or about 7,000 CFA francs) survive as best they can. Their mottos--the same all over Zaire--are: "Article 15!," "Shift for yourself!" Everyone takes to heart the example of the leaders of

the Kasai secession, who in the disorders preceeding the advent of the Guide gave diamond prospectors carte blanche to exploit the mines as they saw fit.

Ever since we left, there has been constant trading of hemp, sheets of copper, and foreign exchange in plain sight. From all sides--from the banks, from islands--canoes converge on the merchant convoys or mail boats, which the former colonizers--in their scornful arrogance--referred to as "cattle boats." Palm wine, crocodile feet, chikwang (cassava paste), saka-saka (cassava leaves), smoked monkeys, smoked fish, dried fish, fresh fish, thread-fins, bingas (a kind of pike, called "river tiger"), fresh water sole, eels, antelope thighs, and white cabbages are traded for beer, cigarettes, and the cartridges which circulate between the two Congos. But all that is of little account. The two commanders try to avoid the country's main problem: fraudulent trade in diamonds and ivory. At least they try to limit the damage.

The situation is similar where navigation and mechanics are concerned. The channel is well-marked up to the mouth of the Kasai (due to Gecomines); then it becomes more dangerous, where the river spills over onto the Sandy Beach area; several times a year the 4-5,000 tons of metal of an ONATRA freight convoy go aground on the sand banks. As far as trade is concerned, Kisangani --formerly Stanleyville--is just a secondary stop now.

When a convoy goes aground it takes 2 days of maneuvering to free the stranded barges one by one. It is very hard work. And then, if the helmsman is skillful enough to get through, there is the risk of "matitis" (water hyacinths) getting tangled up in the propellers and making the motor overheat.

The engines have to hold out, too. The boat is fairly old and hasn't been in drydock for 4 years. It was equipped during colonial times. A long trip is quite an adventure under the circumstances. It takes us more than 15 days to reach Kisangani.

A permanent miracle reigns in the engine room. Bathed in sweat at a temperature of over 50° C, the mechanics and their assistants, without tools (the Belgians suspect they sold them), have to struggle in clouds of vaporized oil to plug leaks of oil, diesel oil and water in faulty cooling circuits. There are no safety measures for the workers. Short-circuits constantly threaten the ship with local and generalized fires.

If the motors manage to keep going, there is still plenty of trouble. Ships going up the river from Kin often have to provide fuel for convoys coming down the river to the capital. The Kingabwa is no exception to this rule; on its return trip it therefore has to wait at M'Bandacka--700 kilometers upstream--for diesel oil. Thefts of fuel and exaggerated estimates of consumption--often made to cover up the usual fraud--don't help matters.

We have left the Bandundu region behind and entered the region of the Equator at M'Bandaka, where the Kingabwa leaves five barges in this town of opulent charm. Its lawns are closely mowed, its streets are neatly tarred; the solidly built dwellings with balconies bear witness to their past luxury and to the Guide's determination to keep up appearances in the capital of the region he was born in, setting it apart from the deterioration of the rest of the country.

Our average speed going up the river is 7 kilometers/hour. The convoy is lighter now. The waters of the Oubangui and the Sangha no longer join those of the Zaire. For several days we have noticed a curious phenomenon which the captain finally explains to us. A forest extends along both sides of the river in two levels: the living forest and the dead one. Tall trees--up to 30 meters sometimes--rise, bare, above a forest which is surprisingly short for this latitude. There are no clearings or trails visible in this variegated green expanse.

Twenty years ago, after an unusually heavy rainy season, there was a flood in Zaire which drowned several kilometers of forest on both sides of the riverbed. The water took several months to recede. The forest rotted but remained standing.

Pierre Kempf, head of the expedition, remembers that terrible year: The town of Bangui, where he lived, was completely flooded to the point where Avenue Boganda was accessible only in a canoe!

Like their comrades in other vessels, the Kingabwa's sailors continue applying article 15. They don't have a single valid zaire left, so they agree to tow the canoes of the Lokele fishermen in exchange for a little food. At least the fishermen haven't suffered like the Basoko--whose little huts on pilings nestle in the bends of the green creeks--during the big flood. They live on their boats--up to 20 meters long--fishing from them and selling the fruits of their labors. They cover their floating homes with roofs made of palm leaves or bamboo.

As we approach Kisangani the shore-dwellers keep trying to accost the ship, which is now traveling at a speed of 9 kilometers/hour. Many boats founder--without serious consequences--in the backwash of the Kingabwa. This is a stop in a wild tract of the river, 5 kilometers before our final destination. The commander can't believe his eyes: 35 stowaways disembark.

Upstream from Kisangani the industrious shore-dwellers of the Wagenia falls ply their trade. They, too, remember the great flood. Their huge scaffoldings--which cross the river in front of Mwele Island, where Henry Morton Stanley spent a week before descending with his army on the Arab slave traders on his second trip to the Congo after 1875--were completely demolished by the flood.

From these structures which they have built in the river they still sink their huge nets--more than 5 meters long--into the boiling rapids, counting on the force of the current to hold their catches.

This spectacular form of fishing has become famous throughout Zaire thanks to postcards and 50 makuto notes, and still draws crowds of tourists, but it no longer plays an important role in feeding the inhabitants of Kisangani. Demand is so keen, buyers come and take delivery of fish on the very banks of the river. A threat of ecological imbalance is building up there.

From the basin of the Zaire River to the African lake district--which we will reach from Kigali, capital of Rwanda, traveling on the Nyiabarongo and Akagera

Rivers--there is a long journey to be made by road through Ituri and Kivu. We have covered the 1,300 kilometers between Kisangani and Kigali in a week, pressing ahead and passing all the other trucks, driving hard from 5 o'clock in the morning until dusk. This gives us an idea how difficult communications are in this country, where--like in Central Africa--certain regions are thrown back upon themselves, almost as though history were flowing backwards. Despite all its obstacles, the river remains the main artery of the country.

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